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# Farm and Ranch Review

VOLUME LIII.  
NUMBER 1.

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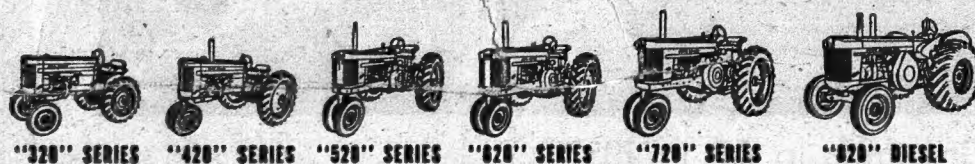
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# Farm and Ranch Review

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## Farm Outlook

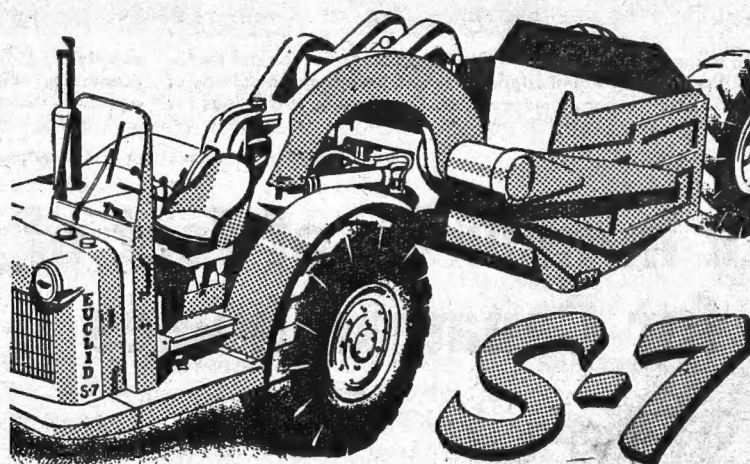
...Farm deliveries of all grain in the prairie provinces from Aug. 1 to Dec. 19 of last year: Manitoba, 41,900,000 bushels; Saskatchewan, 129,300,000; Alberta, 59,500,000; total, 230,700,000. Total for same period a year previous 157,000,000.

The December estimate suggests that the U.S. wheat crop for 1957 will be down at least 100,000,000 bushels from 1956.

Weather has been good for cattlemen in the prairie provinces. Prices should be maintained unless slump in U.S. where feeders have been marketing heavily.

With fewer hogs, prices should be steady.

All in all prospects for 1957 look fairly good for farmers.



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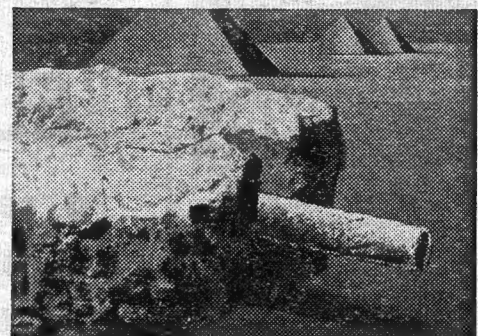
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## Farm and Ranch Review Editorials

### Season's Greetings

#### To Our Readers

**T**O all our Farm and Ranch readers we extend a greeting for the New Year.

To the people of Manitoba, where the tough-grained Selkirk settlers, early in the last century, proved that wheat could be successfully grown in Western Canada, and where agriculture continues to be the backbone of the province's economy.

To the farm people of Saskatchewan, one of the greatest grain producing areas in the entire world. Its yield of 435,000,000 bushels of wheat in 1952 probably has never been equalled by any state or province on earth.

To the farm people of Alberta, leaders in the west in the production of meat, dairy and poultry production.

To the fruit producers and dairy farmers of the valleys and park lands of British Columbia, most westerly province of Canada and one of great destiny.

This farm journal is published for farm people. We still believe that the farm is the best home of the family, the main source of natural wealth, the foundation of civilized society and the natural providence.

The first law of life is survival. Nations, as well as individuals, are involved in the process. Whenever a nation has allowed its farm life to decay, that nation has itself deteriorated. The biological destiny of a nation is invested in its farm homes.

No one can forecast the future, although a lot of people try. We do not know what fate holds in store for us in 1957. But we sincerely wish good fortune to all our readers. Happy New Year to all!

### Complications In The Wheat King Award

**I**T would now appear that Canada has two Wheat Kings.

Early in November at the Toronto Royal Winter Fair, William Deurloo, of Granum, Alberta, 20 years old, won first prize in wheat with a sample of the Chinook variety. As entries in wheat there are open to the world he was named World Wheat King.

A couple of weeks later Jerry Leiske, 13-year-old lad from Beiseker, Alberta, won the wheat crown at the Chicago International Show, also with a sample of Chinook, so he, too, was named World Wheat King.

The complication of the crowning of two World Wheat Kings, particularly when both come from Canada, creates a rather ridiculous situation. A sensible plan would be for some authoritative body to straighten things out. The Toronto winner might be named as Wheat King and the Chicago winner Wheat Emperor, provided the people of our neighboring

republic would have no objection to such a title.

Furthermore, a measure of modesty might impel us to restrict the titles to North America rather than include the entire world. There never are sufficient entries from other nations to make either show a really world championship event. Canadian wheat has gained a high reputation throughout the world for its strength and baking qualities. But judging is done both at Toronto and Chicago on visible appearance and weight. Other nations might well have samples of fine looking wheat, although deficient in strength and baking qualities.

★

### Industry Should Be Decentralized

**I**T is quite possible that the size of cities in the years ahead may be limited by the motor car. Already, in many metropolitan centres, the car congestion is a serious problem, and it is getting worse each year. Traffic lights and police direction provide but a temporary measure of control. As the number of car owners increase the traffic problem approaches an indissoluble situation.

The answer would seem to lie in the decentralization of industry. If more factories and branches of industry were located in towns and villages there would be less congestion in the cities, a spreading of the population and a sounder economic setup.

We believe it would be advantageous to have thirty or forty thriving towns in a province, rather than two or three great cities. Such thriving towns would provide educational, cultural and religious facilities of high order, good markets close at hand for farm people, badly needed hospital and medical facilities, and opportunities for social and recreational activities.

As towns grow, more needed services are made available for the people of the countryside. Then there should be no need for a farmer to make a long trip to a distant city for a repair part for a machine, no necessity for a sick child to be rushed 100 miles or so to a city hospital, and not the same urge for the youth of the town to leave for distant parts to find jobs.

Overgrown cities breed criminals in slum regions, which always seem to persist therein. Thieves and thugs seem to gravitate to the larger centres. Such is not the case in the towns.

The out-size of cities may veritably choke them as motor traffic increases. Like the dinosauri of an ancient era in the west, they may become vulnerable through their bigness.

★

What is right, honest and fair is, in the long run, very good politics.

\*\*\*

The farm situation may show some improvement in 1957. The cloud on the horizon is the increasing cost of the implements, goods and services farm families require to live and continue in business.

### Different Wheat Policy Now Needed

**L**AST year the prairie provinces of Western Canada produced 516,000,000 bushels of wheat on a seeded area of 20,630,000 acres. The rest of Canada produced 21,796,000 bushels of wheat, bringing the total national production up to 537,796,000 bushels. Adding last year's carryover of 537,000,000 bushels thereto and deducting 160,000,000 for domestic needs gives a surplus of 915,000,000 bushels.

The prairie provinces have produced six bumper crops in the past seven years. The cost of carrying grain in storage is substantial, at the commencement of each crop year delivery restrictions prevent producers getting needed cash, and there is a limit to the extent to which expensive elevator storage can be provided.

The annual meeting of Alberta Wheat Pool delegates passed a resolution favoring cash bonuses for taking acreage out of wheat production and seeding same to forage crops. Other farmer organizations have passed similar resolutions. Grain producers seem to have reached the conclusion that definite action must be taken to cut down wheat production so that the burdensome surpluses may be moved.

In 1940, 27,750,000 acres were seeded to wheat in the prairie provinces and resulted in a production of 513,800,000 bushels. That was the largest acreage ever seeded in the area and the outbreak of war was the reason. But Europe was overrun by German armies and exports dwindled. The federal government then laid down a policy which provided for a limit of wheat deliveries totalling 230,000,000 bushels during the 1941-42 crop year; the payment of \$4.00 an acre for land taken out of wheat production below the 1940 figure and summerfallowed; acreage taken out of wheat and sowed to coarse grains, \$2.00 an acre; and acreages taken out of wheat and sowed to grass or clover, \$2.00 an acre for two years.

By 1943 the wheat acreage in the three prairie provinces was down to 16,000,000, the lowest since 1917. A series of moderate-sized crops were produced in the next six years and the carryover was appreciably reduced. Then wheat acreage rose and a substantial carryover was created when the war ended, fortunately for the starved world.

While crop failures may ensue in the years ahead we do not want to see such happen. But if not a bushel of wheat is produced in the west this year, Canada will have enough wheat to supply domestic requirements, a big wheat export, and still have a fair surplus.

We think the time is ripe for a change of policy with regard to wheat. We believe that wheat farmers are somewhat bewildered and restless under prevailing conditions. This may be an opportune time to reduce wheat acreage, get more land under grass and extend the acreage under summerfallow. If what everyone dreads happens and another world war breaks out, the west will be prepared to increase production to the limit once again.



## Some Thoughts About Fruit Marketing

**T**ROUBLE has cropped up among the apple growers in the Okanagan and Kootenay valleys of British Columbia. In 1955 production was substantial and the pack of apple reached 5½ million boxes. Selling is done through one agency, Tree Fruits, Ltd., and it met with plenty of competition in marketing that crop because other apple growing areas produced abundantly. The returns to the growers were disappointing and a number have demanded an investigation of selling methods by a government appointed royal commission.

Prior to the setting up of Tree Fruits, Ltd., as a marketing organization, the selling of apples was conducted on what may be termed an open market basis. Under that method the growers were driven to the verge of bankruptcy. The British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association, through long and arduous efforts, set up the central selling system. Over the years it has conducted a reasonably efficient and sound operation.

Tree Fruits, Ltd., is a grower set-up operating in somewhat the same manner as the government appointed Wheat Board. But apples and other fruits cannot be stored for years as can be done with wheat, so Tree Fruits, Ltd., has a tougher selling assignment. Complete deliveries from the 1955 production totalled 5½ million boxes of apples; also 175,000 boxes of cherries, 313,000 of apricots, 736,000 of peaches, 506,000 of pears and 350,000 of prunes. While hundreds of millions of people must have wheat for their bread or face starvation, fruit is not in the same category. It must be sold.

It is claimed that an apple orchard must be at least fifteen acres in size in order to provide a family with a reasonable living. But over half the apple orchards in the interior valleys of British Columbia are seven acres or less in size.

It is possible that Tree Fruits, Ltd., has not done a good public relations job among the growers. On the prairies the Wheat Board commissioners attend every important farm meeting and discuss problems freely and openly. The big grain handling co-operatives also provide the board with substantial support. Grain producers are kept well-informed and openness pays off.

It may be that an investigation by a royal commission will clear the air and do little harm to the selling set-up in the apple-growing areas. The 1956 apple crop there is down by 1½ million boxes, and prices are from 50c to \$1.00 higher this operating year so growers may be better satisfied with the returns. However, if internal strife disrupts or tears down centralized selling apple growers will be in real trouble. It is easier to tear down than to build up.

★

To be trusted is a greater compliment than to be loved.

\* \* \*

Money is getting harder to borrow and more expensive. The government seems apprehensive over the prospect of a runaway inflation and the brakes have been put on.

## Railway Unions Have The West In Their Grip

**S**INCE 1948 the railways have been granted freight-rate increases totaling 120% and calculated to provide an additional revenue of \$332,000,000. Increases in employees' pay along with fringe benefits have absorbed most of that revenue. But the railway unions are not satisfied and likely never will be, and they have the power to get what they want. And the landlocked prairie provinces of Western Canada must foot most of the bill. The cost of living, farming, manufacturing and doing general business increases with every victory gained by the railway unions, and on a percentage basis much greater than the actual cost of increased freight charges.

With each increase in freight rates the Crows Nest Pass agreement, whereby the rate on grain transportation to export markets is maintained at a low level, becomes in a more precarious position. The railway unions, as well as the railways, are opposed to that agreement and the political impotence of the prairie provinces is becoming more evident with each passing year.

If the grain rates under the Crows Nest Pass agreement are jettisoned, the cost of freighting export grain from the west may be increased by around \$45,000,000 a year. When the agreement was temporarily suspended in 1921 the increase in transporting a bushel of export wheat from Calgary to Fort William was from 14.4c to 24.3c.

Under the hallucination that they can achieve tangible benefits for their members, some farmer organizations have been cozying up to labor unions. The unions lose nothing by joining up with a farmer delegation which appears before the federal cabinet asking for parity prices for farm products. But when the cost of food rises a point or two the labor unions are on the job seeking higher pay and other fringe benefits.

Some farmer organizations now have trouble in securing increases in membership. One reason therefore is that very attitude to organized labor. The individual farmer knows very well that when a farm organization ties itself in with organized labor that it is the farmer who gets the short end of the stick.

The Canadian Pacific Railway has been dieselizing many of its power units, replacing coal with oil. That makes the job of fireman unnecessary on freight and yard service. The company calculated a saving of from \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000 a year by eliminating firemen on such services. The result was a threatened tieup of a whole transportation system. The unions tell the railways whom they must employ.

The railway unions in Canada today have more power than the government of the nation. They can control the economic destiny of the west. And make no mistake, they want the Crows Nest freight rates cast overboard. They have said so in very definite terms. The farmer organizations that follow meekly in the trail of union leaders can merely make loud protests and then pat themselves on the back.

## The Origin Of New Year's Day

**T**HE custom of celebrating New Year's Day originated in primitive times, probably among the prehistoric people existing in the dark forests of the European or Asiatic continents. In their ignorance they were seriously concerned when, each autumn, the sun's diurnal appearance became more restricted, as they recognized the sun as the giver of light and life. After what we now term the 21st day of December a change took place and gradually the days became longer. This brought about great rejoicing among the human beings of that early age, so they staged a celebration for "the new year."

With the spread of civilization and learning among later generations a move was made to create and adopt a "calendar," (from the Greek word kalends, meaning month) by which the passage of time could be measured. The new year was launched on January 1, probably as a concession to the practices of primitive mankind.

The month of January was named by the Romans after their god Janus, keeper of the gates, who was two faced and could look backward as well as forward. Mankind needed a day of reckoning, so that the past could be scanned in anticipation of a better performance in the future.

So we mark time by the years beginning January 1, and we say "time passes." But it is we who pass. Time, when compared with the brevity of human life, stands still. This western land we call our homeland was prolific with animal life five hundred million years ago, but man did not appear here until, at the most, a couple of thousand years ago.

Nevertheless we are the people of 1957. We do not know what will be said of our deeds and actions in this New Year by people of succeeding generations. They will view such in the vast background of what went on before and the events that came after. Perhaps it will not seem so significant to them as it now seems to us. We think that 1956 was one of the fateful years in human history, a year from which a new mark in the human story must be dated. But amid the tremendous pageant of this stirring era can the happenings of one year be selected as the most important? We doubt it.

★

**T**HE Alberta Library Association, composed of librarians from all over the province, is conducting a campaign to encourage reading among farm families in the Prairie Provinces.

It suggests that farm people should write to provincial governments or extension departments of universities who operate libraries. In many places there are regional, municipal and school division libraries. There are also member libraries in many localities.

Home and School Associations, Women's Institutes, Farm Union Women's Associations and other similar organizations should be interested in this program. Get in touch with the nearest librarian or the government or the universities.





By KERRY WOOD

CAN snakes swallow their young to hide them in time of trouble? How do sexton beetles locate a dead body so quickly? What's happened to those pretty fringed gentian flowers that used to be plentiful along country roads? How does a small bird like a sora rail manage to set on a clutch of ten large eggs and keep them all warm?

Again my mail box is crammed with letters. When the weather is fine and fish are biting, farmers are much too busy planting or haying or summerfallowing or harvesting to bother about correspondence. But when winter sets in, so does the letter writing itch and several hundred come my way. Other naturalists tell me they receive scads of mail from observant farm folk, asking nature questions. This has made me pester the radio people for lo! twenty long years! urging them to institute a weekly nature show on western networks where farmers' queries about critters that crawl, trot, and fly around their home acres could be answered over the air. I am convinced it would make a marvelous program of absorbing interest for all members of the farm family.

Meanwhile the questions have to be answered. Regarding the lead one listed above, experts on reptiles say it is impossible for mother snakes to swallow their young and then eject them alive after danger has passed, yet many farmers claim they've seen it happen. I dunno! Those orange and black sexton or burial beetles have a keenly developed sense of smell, thus quickly locate bird and animal corpses to bury and become host-homes for beetles' eggs and larvae. Fringed gentians are suffering the same fate as many other beautiful flowers: they have been plucked scarce in many haunts, while roadside sprays have destroyed other patches. Rails are prolific egg-layers. One clutch of 19 was found in my home district recently. I once watched a setting rail for two hours; during that interval the mother bird turned the eggs three times, which may keep them rotating fast enough to give all eggs a good warming. Another thing: often a bird sets on eggs not to keep them warm, but to shade them from the sun.

Cluster flies that swarm on windows during the autumn bring many a letter. They aren't disease carriers like house flies, but can make a terrible mess on glass and sometimes thousands of them die on floors under the infested windows. We found that spraying the outside wood seams around windows has helped control them; better still, put on storm windows early and seal the flies out that way.

#### Waxwings' Menu

One kind-hearted lady wrote that beautiful Bohemian Waxwings came to her two mountain ash trees and devoured all the red berries at one sitting. Now she is worried because the birds are still in her district, and what will they eat, with no more ash berries available? They dine on a wide variety of wild fruits, such as shrivelled saskatoons, plump snowberries, red willow or dogwood berries, and the very plentiful wolf-berries that thrive along railway right-of-

ways. Our winter waxwings are also fond of many flower and weed seeds.

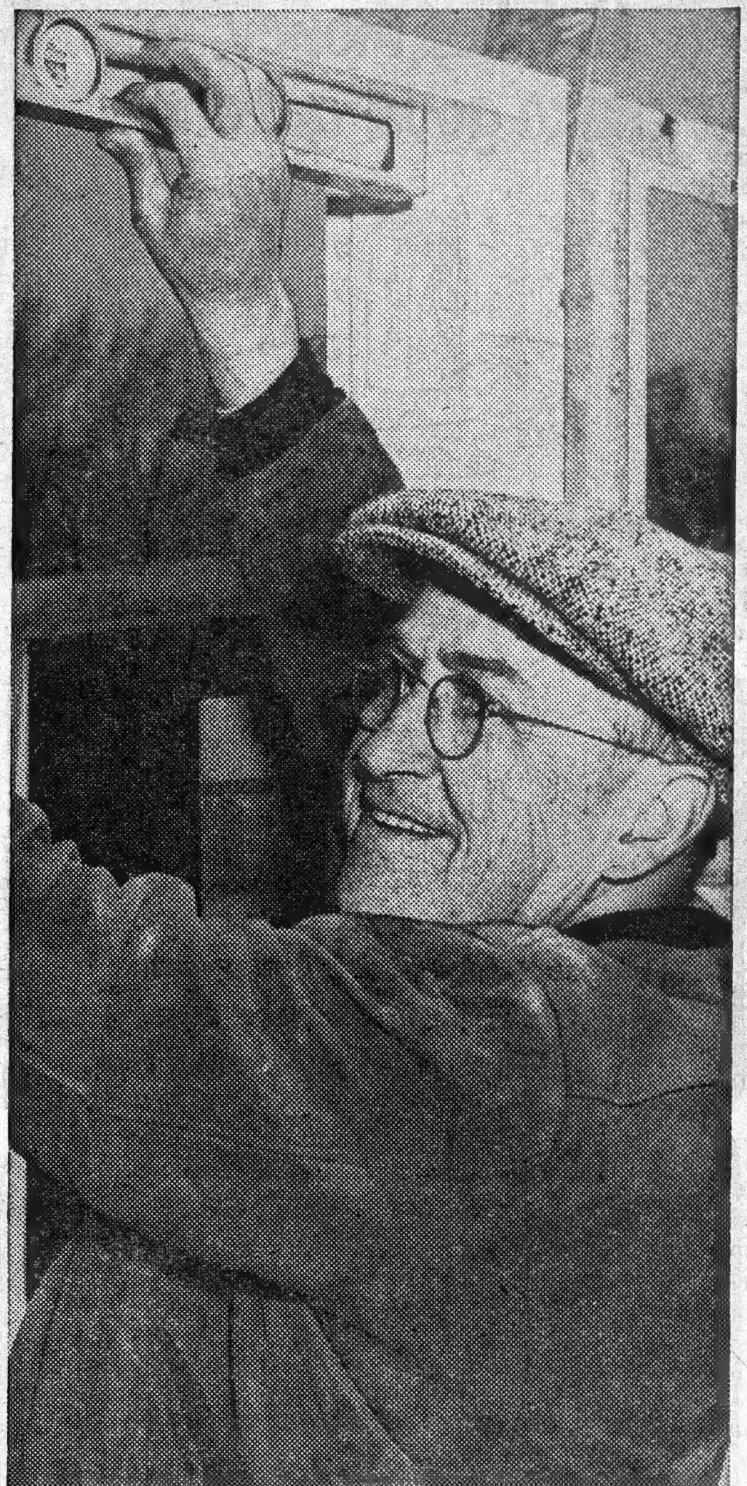
"Just saw a woodpecker the size of a pigeon. It made a noise like a flicker, but it had a huge red top-notch, white stripes on the neck, and a darkish body. It was hammering heck out of a dead stump and eating wood ants." An excellent description of the 17-inch pileated woodpecker, largest of the family in the Canadian zone. The ivory-billed woodpecker of Florida is slightly larger, but this southern bird is now near extinction and our Canadian pileated may soon be the continent's largest.

Wood ants that such woodpeckers eat have brought us gentle scolding from another farm lady. She read my "Willowdale" book and objects to the mention of wood ants as a rheumatism cure. Years ago I visited a timber berth where a crew of cutters were felling trees. One giant spruce had a rotten core, and that core was populated by half-inch-long, black wood ants, all frozen stiff. To my amazement, two old lumbermen gathered the ants, brushed off legs and heads, then calmly ate them. Explanation offered was that they believed eating ants helped prevent rheumatism. What did they taste like? They persuaded me to try one. Oog! Well, it tasted like a sour pickle. Do they help rheumatism? I dunno, but in some arthritic clinics doctors prescribe bee-stings as a remedy, and ants belong to the same hymenoptera family as bees and wasps. Formic acid would seem to be the element in a bee-sting that may help rheumatism, so perhaps the eating of pickle-flavoured frozen ants puts some formic acid into the human system. You can have them; I prefer mustard pickles!

#### Indians' Remedy

A fat letter came, bulging with twigs to be identified. It contained the soft, flat needles of ground cedar. The other ground evergreen is juniper, a shrub that grows to a height of almost two feet and has sharp needles. Small blue berries are borne on juniper bushes — the Indians' kidney ailment remedy. Ground cedar hugs the ground, a flat carpet with soft needles similar to those flat ones found on the tree cedar. There is also a Rocky Mountain juniper of upright form, six to ten feet high and occasionally eight inches thick at the butt — beautiful hobby wood, hard and durable, with a red-purple heart of large size.

Push-up snow trails puzzle one farm lad. He found the neat spoor on a pasture next a poplar grove, an inch-wide trail raised half an inch above the snow's surface, yet completely covered with snow all the way. No tracks showing, just the tiny tunnel. Similar intriguing spoors can be seen in any woodland during the winter season, marking the routes followed by diminutive shrews. The sharp-nosed little carnivores, barely two inches long, always seem to tunnel their way across open territory — a wonderful way of hiding from the sharp eyes of foraging owls in winter time. Shrews are common but seldom seen. Most regions have three varieties, including a larger water-shrew found near streams and often living among the stick-jammed heap of a beaver house — which has earned them the nick-name of "beaver-mice".



## Frank Thorogood builds for the future

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"Power tools, pre-fabricated sections and the use of new structural materials make all the difference," says Mr. Thorogood. "Developments like these have simplified our work — and make for stronger, more fire-resistant buildings."

In building for the future, Mr. Thorogood has enjoyed still another advantage — through the wider range of financial protection he can give his family because of modern developments in life insurance.

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You'll get more help than ever from your *life underwriter*. He is a skilled adviser who acts as your personal representative, carefully planning your life insurance protection to fit your family's individual needs.

*In these and other ways, the life insurance companies in Canada have progressed with the times . . . meeting the needs of people in all walks of life.*

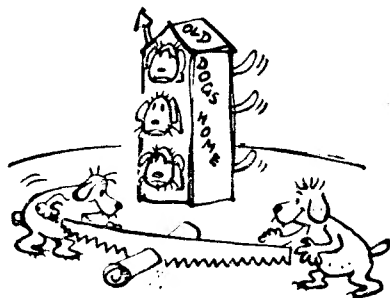
Life insurance companies are a major source of mortgage funds for Canadian families — last year they invested four hundred and sixty-five million dollars in this way.

## THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA

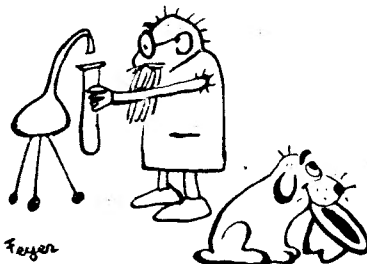
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It's costing more and more money to make the gasolines required by today's more powerful cars.



**IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED**

## The Indians Culinary Contribution

By INA BRUNS

Recipe for Pemmican

*The Indian maiden who took up teepee-keeping in the years gone by was not burdened with grocery bills, calorie counting or balanced menus. She simply cooked what was on hand the best way she knew how. Her chief couldn't take himself off to a cafe if he didn't like her cooking.*

**L**EAFING through most any cook book, one soon comes across recipes for Danish pastry, French dressings and Chinese dishes of all kinds. There are foods from Mexico and Scotland, Tallahassee and Timbuctu but no one, it seems, gives credit to our North American Indians for their culinary contributions.

Most of us think of the Indians as thundering across the plains in pursuit of Sunday's roast or spearing their breakfast from a gurgling stream. We seldom stop to realize that Indians did eat other things than buffalo, fish and berries and that they did know something about the art of cookery.

Actually, the larder of our first citizens was not as limited as would first appear. These people gave some attention to the plants that grew around them and they learned to vary their diets by such delights as baked squash and wild rice. While there was no pop-corn vendor on the corner to please the children, still the papooses of the past knew the joy of watching corn dance in the heat like fleecy lambs at play. Not only did the Indians know about maize and pop-corn, they were the first to lay the green ears on hot coals and celebrate a corn roast.

Almost every modern cook book contains the recipe for making succotash and it hasn't changed much from the days when the Indian woman of the teepee cut her stewing meat into small squares, cooked it until tender and then tossed in green corn and beans to make a most appetizing dish. Hominy is another Indian dish that the white settler claimed for his own. To make it the natives soaked their corn in water containing lye from wood ashes. When the hulls parted from the soft kernel the ashes were washed away and the hominy boiled and seasoned to taste. The squaw who happened across this method of preparing corn, could scarcely have dreamed that modern canning companies would commercialize upon her idea and the product would find its way to the super market.

Indians also found a method to remove the tannin from acorns so that those living near oak trees enjoyed acorn flour which they made into bread. The leaching of this acid was done by the wood ash method in which the acorns were boiled in the lye solution. Other tribes used the hot water method for removing this bitterness.

Maple sugar was being made in Canada before the white man arrived to join the red men in their sap gathering. The boiling down of the sap was a happy occasion for young and old and the children made candy which they poured over the snow to cool into an early spring delicacy. The Indian mother did not worry that the children might suffer from eating the sweets from the maple trees, but she was careful to see that the young hunters in the tribe did not eat of the sweet. Since the sugar originated in the lofty maples, it was believed that the rolling and swaying of the trees might be carried over into those who ate of the sweet, making them unsteady.

In spite of the Indians' lack of methods for food preservation he did have a few ingenious ways of storing up meat for the days ahead. One of his answers to this most puzzling problem was pemmican. The Plains people made it of dried buffalo meat pounded up with berries. Over this mixture was poured the melted marrow fat and the meat was then stored in rawhide bags. It is said to have kept indefinitely.

When nuts could be found, our first citizens made good use of them by turning them into a rich gravy which was used over corn bread and vegetables. They knew how to make puddings out of maple sugar, pumpkins, squash, apples and berries.

As children we enjoyed a delicious tasting tea which we brewed from sassafras roots. Not long ago my brother, for old times sake, sent me a package of these roots but I was reminded that the Indians had also taught us this trick in tea making. They were also aware that tea could be brewed from many other herbs such as birch twigs and wild strawberry leaves.

The potato which seems to be the staff of life for most people today, was not available in the form we know it, but the Indian sought out roots that served him in much the same way. The Plains Indians used camas roots along with ground nuts. The wild onion added zest to the stews of tribes living where the herb grows.

### Teepee Cooking

Not only did the Indians of North America learn the rudiments of agriculture in many cases, but they had also to cope with the lack of metal pots and pans to make their culinary chores easier. We who open a tin can and heat its contents in a pressurized pot can scarcely imagine the toil an Indian woman faced when she went about making a meal. Lacking a metal pot which could be put into contact with the flames, she heated rocks until they were very hot and dropped them into vessels made of wood or bark or even rawhide which was stretched between stakes. Some Indians had pottery vessels for their cooking and some tribes were so skillful in weaving water-tight baskets that these were used in cooking.

Baking was done by digging a hole and lining it with rocks which were heated by a fire which was lighted inside the hole. Once the rocks were thoroughly heated, the fire was removed and the meat or vegetables were placed inside this oven and covered over with hot stones and earth. Corn cakes were baked on heated flat rocks and fish and meat was sometimes wrapped in clay and baked in the coals or over the fire.

But in spite of the difficult tasks that faced a maiden who took up teepee-keeping in the years gone by, a few things of the modern world she was spared: she was not burdened with grocery bills, calorie counting or balanced menus. She simply cooked what was at hand in the best way she knew how and her Big Chief couldn't take himself off to a cafe if he didn't like what she had in the cooking pot. It was just as well, too, perhaps, that the little woman who dried her buffalo meat before a fly-blown tent had never heard of germs. In matters of cleanliness, it would indeed have been folly to be wise.

*In writing for a change of address or subscription renewal be sure you sign your name and give your old address, as well as your new one. Quite a few letters unfortunately omit both name and address.*



## Hog Care

A sample of feed and a dead pig were submitted to the Alberta Veterinary Laboratory for analysis and post-mortem. Findings revealed that death was caused by pneumonia and too much fibre in the feed. This and many similar cases prove the value and importance of dry, well-bedded quarters for pigs during the fall, winter and early spring periods says A. J. Charnetski, Livestock Supervisor, Alberta Department of Agriculture.

Ventilation is of very great importance in a hog barn. Plans for construction of a cheap but effective ventilator are available from the nearest District Agriculturist. If cold, clammy, damp air cannot be removed by ventilation alone, install a safe and efficient stove to provide extra heat for evaporating and lifting out the extra moisture from the barn. If electricity is available use heat bulbs in creeps where sucklings pigs may be drawn away from the sow to safe, dry

### CREEP FEED SUCKLING PIGS

(Brandon Experimental Farm)

Creep feeding of suckling pigs is an important factor in swine production. Nursing pigs begin to eat food when they are two to three weeks of age and, at this stage of development, should be provided with a nutritious and easily-digested feed. The creep feed can be fed in a trough or self-feeder located in a protected area of the pen so that the sow does not have access to it.

To a large extent, the advantages of creep feeding are due to the inability of sows to provide an optimum level of nutrition for their litters during this period of rapid growth and development. Creep-fed pigs are heavier and more uniform at weaning; suffer less mortality; and are less subject to set-back at weaning.

The creep feed provided should be nutritious, easily digested, and low in fibre content. At the Experimental Farm, Brandon, a ration made up of 100 pounds of wheat middlings, 50 pounds of ground wheat, 100 pounds of chopped oats (hulls removed), 40 pounds of good quality fish meal, and 10 pounds of a combined mineral vitamin antibiotic supplement has been used with good success. Using this creep feed, 491 pigs averaged 37.8 pounds at eight weeks of age in 1955.

Commercial pig starter rations also are available on the market and these may be used to advantage where a producer is unable to mix his own feeds.

Little Mary was sitting on great-grandpa's knee and after looking at him intently for awhile, said: "Grandpa were you in the ark?"

"Why no, dear," said the astonished old gent.

"How come then," said the child, "you weren't drowned?"

**MEN  
PAST  
40**

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Without potash (potassium) there is little chance that farmers could support our present high crop production nor could people in cities eat as well or as cheaply as they now do.

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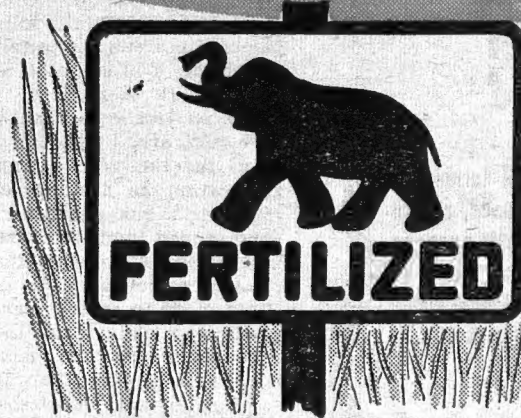


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## Mexican Pilgrimage

By 'ACQUELINE PENN

FARMERS and agriculturists are in for a pleasant surprise if they believe Mexico to be a country producing only cacti and burros. It will be agreed that many of their methods are primitive and in direct opposition to those authorized by our country, yet there is much to see and learn in Mexico. Much can be compared to Canada, for in recent years in Mexico the number engaged in agriculture has fallen off, however 60% of the

population still works the land. As a nation it produces all its food requirements and exports in considerable quantity.

Like Canadians, Mexicans have an attachment to the soil. The longing to own land was the major cause of Mexico's wars and revolutions. Today the aspiration to own one's own land influences the nation's agricultural policy. Before the revolution of 1911, the hacienda system prevailed. This system can be compared with that of the feudal lords. Each hacienda employed a large number of laborers and extended over vast expanses of land constituting of an almost completely self-governing and self-sufficient unit. Less than 10% of those engaged in agriculture owned land in 1911. The post-revolution period marked a transition to smaller tracts of land farmed by individual farmers, a collective farm or ejidos system where plots may be inherited, but not sold or mortgaged, co-operative farms where members can sell their land and large agricultural enterprises under private management.

### Primitive Farming Methods

Farming anywhere is a gamble and certainly in Mexico where many handicaps confront the farmer. Yields are often just a fraction of those realized in other countries because of the uneven rainfall, killing frost in mountain areas and primitive farming methods. You see no large farm machinery in Mexico for ploughs are used on the level land and hillsides are cultivated by hoes, with the result that the topsoil is merely scratched. Education is lacking and rotation farming is not practised. Exhausted and eroded lands are abandoned, and there is no reclaiming program. However, considerable headway has been made in recent years, and Mexicans can claim that they are now producing one-third more food per capita this year than fifteen years ago. This is excellent considering the rapidly expanding population. At the same time exports have been kept at a high level. In recent years large areas have been opened to irrigation. One of the oldest irrigation systems can be found at Xochimilco, where the Indians, in order to escape high land taxes imposed by the Spaniards, lived on boats, which later became parts of small islands in the canals. These islands now supply Mexico City with vegetables. Technical and educational programs are underway to promote better cultivation methods.

The crops that are grown in Mexico differ in many respects from ours. You see large fields of corn shocks, for corn is the chief crop and the most important staple dating back to the time of the Toltecs and Aztecs. Tortillas can be compared to our bread as the staff of life. When the weather is favorable the farmers are able to produce a crop sufficient for maximum consumption and reserves. The 1954 and '55 crops were around 4 million tons each. Corn is important to the Mexican in many ways, and you see the tiny burros carrying loads or husks twice as high as themselves. These are used for mattress stuffing. Tamales, the famous Mexican dish, are cooked in corn husks.

### Specialized Crops

Cotton has become the most valuable agricultural product of the country as well as its principal export. 1955, cotton exports were valued at \$186 million. The value of cotton exports amounted to 20% of the total proceeds from exports over the past five years. Stimulating this trend for cultivation has been the strong world demand for raw cotton and the

growth of domestic textile mills in the country. The mills buy from independent producers. Mexicans, with an outstanding background in art, have developed many exciting textile designs which are distributed throughout the world. Mexico was the source of 100,000 bales or about 30% of Canadian raw cotton imports in 1955, and, therefore, is the second largest supplier of cotton to Canada, next to the U.S.

More than one million bags of coffee, worth about \$80 million are sold abroad annually by Mexico, making coffee the second biggest export commodity. Mexico ranks third after Brazil and Columbia in coffee exports. Mexicans, themselves, love coffee, strong and black with plenty of sugar and chickory.

Vegetables, such as those grown at Xochimilco, have become more important to the population's diet and to export in the past few years. Tomatoes, green peppers, lettuce, peas, onions and other garden products are shipped abroad during the winter months, the greatest portion going to the U.S. and Canada. Tomatoes are by far the most important among the Mexican vegetables sold to Canada and amounted to \$2 million in 1955. Canada also imports refined sugar from Mexico and in 1955 imported an excess of 3,000 tons worth \$324,000.

Fruits, like vegetables are important exports, particularly bananas, pineapples, oranges, grapefruits and cantaloupes. It is along the tropical coasts that you see these fruits being grown in plantations much like our B.C. orchards. Fruit provides a healthy diet for the Mexican, and you'll find it on sale wherever you go. Peanuts are sold like fruit on street corners and in markets, but Canada bought 23 million pounds, of the goobers, valued at \$2.6 million in 1955. Much of the cooking in Mexico is done in peanut oil, and for that reason some oil is imported annually to supplement domestic stock.

### Mexican Wheat Production

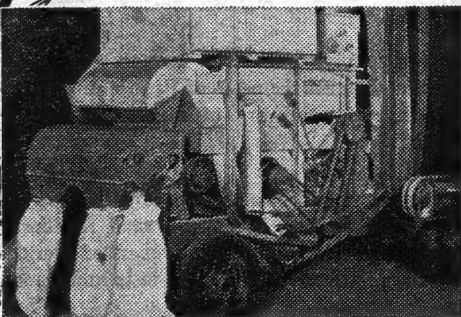
Naturally farmers in the west would be interested in the wheat production of Mexico. Under recent government efforts 29 million bushels a year. The country is largely self-sufficient although some hard wheat is imported to mix with the domestic soft wheat. Hemp, cocoa, potatoes and rice also are raised and contribute to the economy of the country.

The cattle industry is important to the Mexican economy, as the country has been a major exporter of cattle and meat for many years. About 250 million acres of land are used as pasture, more than half of this is located in the arid northern region. In the south the cattle appear to be a cross with the Brahma and Texas Longhorn, although Holsteins can be found on the dairy farms. The majority of the cattle are left to roam at will over highways and byways. Exports of beef, fresh and frozen, amounted to 8.5 thousand tons in 1955. Hogs, sheep, goats and poultry are kept in most sections of the country, but like the cows, have free rein on the countryside. The motorists must contend with their meanderings.

Western Canadian visitors to Mexico can arrange with their travel agents to visit farms and ranches while on their holiday. A visit to the Agriculture School at the magnificent University of Mexico is a must for the western visitor. One word of advice: If you decide to ride a burro, while visiting on a farm, either inside on a saddle, or the rumble . . . I will tell you that they have mighty sharp backbones.

# are you sowing weeds?

Thirty per cent of all farmers in Canada use rejected seed, according to 1954 seed drill surveys. Uncleaned and low grade seed results in extra work, lower yields, lower quality and lower profits.



### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Use registered seed when possible.
2. Have seed properly cleaned.
3. Treat for seed-borne diseases.
4. If you use home grown seed, have it cleaned and graded at a qualified seed cleaning plant. Have the cleaned sample tested at a government seed laboratory.
5. Check with your Agricultural Representative for seed supplies and cleaning plants.

It's a good farm practice to sow clean seed. Another good practice is to start a savings account at The Canadian Bank of Commerce. Add to it regularly; watch it grow. To keep records of your expenses, use a current account; pay all bills by cheques; your cancelled cheques act as receipts. Call soon at our nearest branch. You'll get a friendly welcome.

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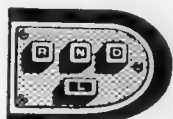
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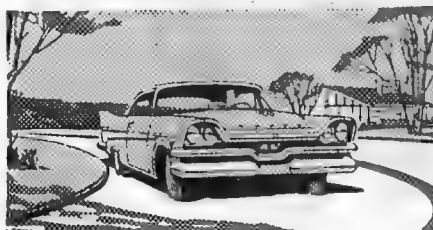
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on corners or curves! Dodge with Torsion-Aire Ride has a new, lower centre of gravity, new torsion-bar front springs that let you take corners with amazing control!

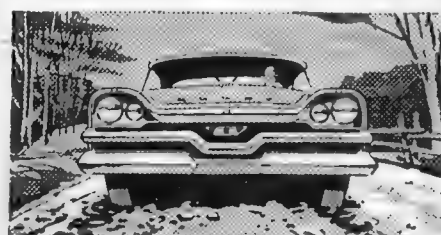
### 2. Stops annoying "nose-dive!"

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You're always a step ahead in cars of the Forward Look





FROM a little farm on "Spud Island", better known as Prince Edward Island, to the office of Lieutenant-Governor of the proud Province of Alberta, must seem like quite a great distance anyway one looks at it. But for J. J. Bowlen, who is Alberta's present Lieutenant-Governor, it was not a straight trail by any means. It had twists and detours and rough places that would have discouraged less persistent people. But as the Lieutenant-Governor himself has noted, one must travel over rough roads to fully appreciate the smooth ones.

## If You're TIRED ALL THE TIME

Everybody gets a bit run-down now and then, tired-out, heavy-headed, and maybe bothered by backaches. Perhaps nothing seriously wrong, just a temporary toxic condition caused by excess acids and wastes. That's the time to take Dodd's Kidney Pills. Dodd's stimulate the kidneys, and so help restore their normal action of removing excess acids and wastes. Then you feel better, sleep better, work better. Get Dodd's Kidney Pills now. Look for the blue box with the red band at all druggists. You can depend on Dodd's. 52

## A Cowboy Became A Lieutenant-Governor

By GRANT MacEWAN

Albertans know J. J. Bowlen as a rancher and politician. But as one who experienced all the varieties of pioneer hardship and had to "fight for every nickel" he acquired, his early experiences embraced many other activities, even a job as street-car conductor in the city of Boston and a stint of army service wearing the United States uniform at the time of the Spanish-American war. J. J. Bowlen has travelled extensively and so when he observed that Alberta is the best place in the world, he spoke with considerable authority.

The home farm on Prince Edward Island to whence Irish Bowlens came several generations back and where Jack Bowlen was born on July 21st, 1876, was a small one, just like the others in that section of Canada. There he attended school, milked cows and did various farm chores. When he was 16 years of age and considered himself a grown man, Jack Bowlen set out to make his own way in the world. There were five brothers and five sisters and things were a little

crowded around home. With \$15.00 in his pocket he set out for Boston, that big city that drew so many maritime boys who sought a change from farm life. His first job was a teamster on city streets and then he became a streetcar conductor at \$2.25 for every 12-hour day. He considered that a good job, easier than milking cows and a bit more profitable.

### Returned to Canada

The desire for adventure burns in every young heart and with the Spanish-American war in progress he joined the United States army. From his army service he got experience and malaria and when the war was



Lieut.-Governor John J. Bowlen, pioneer of the open rangeland.

over he and his new Boston wife decided to return to Canada with the \$1,000.00 which represented total savings. The freedom offered by farm life appeared more attractive and for a time he operated a small place on the Island.

He had not seen the West, but what he heard sounded as inviting as a strawberry festival. Manitoba seemed a long way from the Island, but there he went in 1902 and was directed to a farm hand's job at Carievale in the North West Territories. As he was establishing himself in the farm bunk-house at the end of his first day the boss called him to the house and young Bowlen was sure he was going to be fired. Instead, the farmer reported that a friend living at Elva in Manitoba had been called East on account of somebody's illness and wanted a man to take over his farm for the summer. The young Easterner admitted that he had no experience in Western farming but said, "sure, I'll tackle anything." So he resigned from his \$15.00 a month summer job and took over the Manitoba farm. Evidently it was a pretty good move and when the owner returned in the autumn his crop was in the elevator, his summer-fallow was in good shape and everything about the farm was spic and span. Jack Bowlen's share of the returns amounted to \$2,600.00, more than he had been able to save in the eight years he had been at Boston.

With all that money, he would start for himself and it was then that he went to Muenster close to Humboldt, in Saskatchewan, and bought a quarter-section for \$1,600. The years ahead, however, were difficult and trying. For three seasons in a row his crops were frozen and if that wasn't enough to drive a young fellow back to the Maritimes, his five horses died from swamp fever. But Bowlen wasn't quitting and he says with pride

that he was able to make a few necessary dollars in other ways so that he did not have to mortgage his land. He fed his frozen grains to pigs and sold the dressed pork at 5c a pound. When the horses died, he acquired a team of oxen; they were cheaper and they wouldn't take swamp fever. With these sulky brutes he hauled fire wood and sold it at \$2.50 a load. He hauled hay and hauled anything that would give him a dollar or two.

### In the Horse Business

In his struggle to keep the wolf from the homestead door, he began buying and selling horses and in the winter of 1906-07 he decided upon a mighty gamble; he borrowed money from the bank with which to buy a carload of Manitoba horses around Gladstone. The horses, he sold in the Humboldt district. Most sales were "on time" but settlers were honest and the debts were paid. The venture in horses must have been profitable because Bowlen went back for more and for the next 20 years horse-dealing was a major enterprise.

He happened to be at Fort Macleod one day late in 1908 and as he waited for a train, a band of horses was being driven through town. Jack Bowlen learned that the horses were for sale. He could handle a bunch like that and instead of catching the train, he offered \$7,500 for the 150 head. The owner said, "sold", and Bowlen made out a cheque for the total amount before he realized that he didn't have that much money or credit. It was a horrible sensation and there were visions of dire consequences. But evidently the Humboldt banker had confidence in this young fellow and the cheque was honored.

Those horses were driven to High River and wintered at straw piles. In the spring, four riders equipped with a cook wagon were instructed to drive the horses the six hundred miles to Humboldt. All went well until the outfit reached the Red Deer River. It was in flood and angry about it. The party would have to wait for lower water or swim. Decision was made to swim and with extra help, the big band of unco-operative horses was induced to enter the water. Even then the troubles were not over because nine horses were lost by drowning. In spite of that loss, however, the trip was completed and the horses sold at a profit of about ten thousand dollars. Needless to say, Jack Bowlen went back to Alberta for more horses and in each of the few years following, he was selling about a thousand Alberta horses in Saskatchewan.

### Bought Tony Day Ranch

He moved to Macklin, Saskatchewan, where the horse market was fresher, but Alberta was increasingly attractive. In 1910, he bought a ranch on Rosebud Creek. After a few years, he sold it and in 1917, he bought the 90,000-acre, Tony Day ranch, south of Medicine Hat. Day had suffered severe set-back in the winter of 1906-07, when most of his huge herd of "Turkey Track" cattle perished. Now he was building up a band of range horses on his "Q Ranch", north of Wildhorse. But Day's ranch was for sale and Mr. Bowlen has told that in buying it, the negotiations lasted exactly five minutes. Five cents an acre was the price on the leased land and \$70 a head for Day's 1,700 horses. When the buyer offered to pay for the haying equipment and milk cows, Day said, "no; I'll give you all that and hope you can make it go."

The winter, 1919-20, was a severe one. Mr. Bowlen was living in Calgary but had a premonition that things were not all well at the ranch. There was no phone there so he went

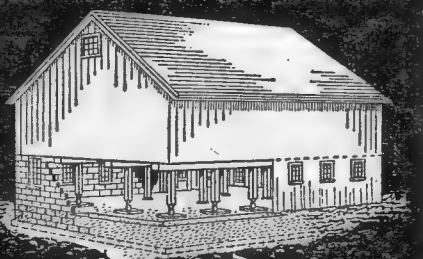
(Continued on page 14)

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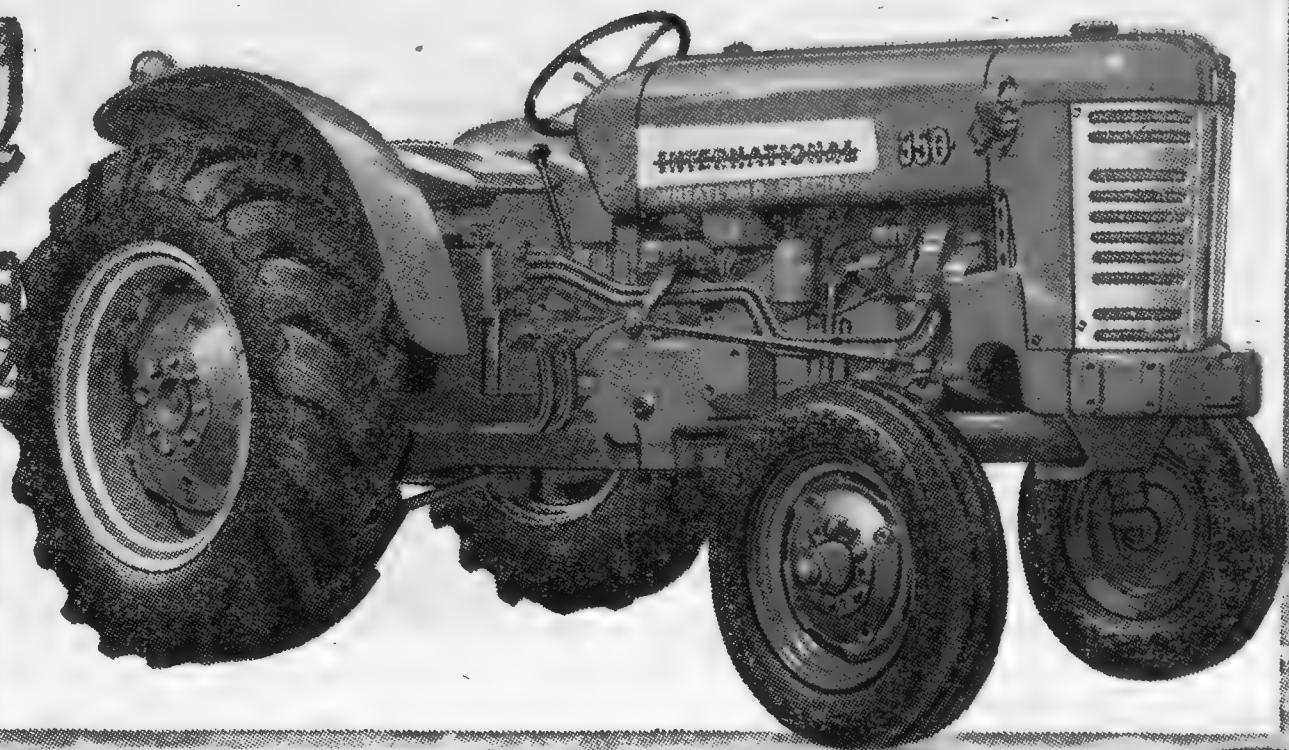




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(Continued from page 12)

by train to Govenlock on the Saskatchewan side and started from there by saddle horse. It was a mistake; the trails were hidden under the snow and the horseman became lost. Had he not come upon the ranch house of George Griffiths, where he was taken in for the night and thawed out, he'd have frozen in the saddle.

On the ranch, the situation was desperate and the horses were starving. Bowlen rode another 50 miles to consult Cattleman Jim Wallace. Said Wallace, "I don't like horses on my range but you're in a bad spot, Jack. You feed what hay you've got to your mares and foals and bring the rest over here where the chinooks have cleared my fields." The instructions were followed and 1,600 horses were trailed to the neighbor-range and the big band was brought through without loss. And Wallace would accept no settlement.

### A Deal for a Big Spread

Next year Jack Bowlen reduced his horse herd, deciding to go into cattle. But before long, he sold his "Q ranch", to Jim Wallace. According to Mr. Bowlen, the sale agreement was finalized on the back of an old envelope after a few crisp enquiries that went something like this:

"How much do you want for your spread, Jack?"

The answer was "Fifty cents an acre".

Said Wallace, "I'll give you 40. How much for the cattle?"

Bowlen said, "72.50 per head," and Wallace replied, "I'll give you \$70. How many cattle have you got?"

The answer was, "808 head," and Wallace said, "Call 'em 800 and we

won't need to count 'em. I'll give you \$25,000 cash and the balance when the lease is transferred." Thus was the big deal completed and confirmed.

Now Jack Bowlen was out of ranching but not for long. He bought land at Alderson and built a horse band up to 3,000 head. One of the horses foaled there was Bouncing Buster, the game old jumping horse known to everyone who has attended a horse show in later years. But sales were falling and in 1929, Mr. Bowlen disposed of the last of his horses and went into sheep. It proved a good move and as many as 5,000 breeding ewes were carried on that Alderson ranch.

There were other ranch deals and there were big grain-growing operations at Carseland. The floor of the rumpus room of the Lieutenant-Governor's Edmonton residence showed 19 different ranch brands that he used at one time or another. There was politics, too, fourteen years (1931-1944) in the Alberta Legislature, and honors, lots of them. In 1947, he was appointed to the Board of Governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; he became Honorary President of the Western Stock Growers' Association; an Honorary Doctor's degree was conferred by the University of Alberta; he received the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights of Grace, and in 1950, he became the Lieutenant-Governor of his adopted Province of Alberta and filled that high office with friendly dignity which always came so easily to him.

### No Life Like Ranching

As I chatted with him not long ago, he revealed another side of his life, books.

"Books have been one of the chief sources of help and joy through the years. I've lived with books," he said: "I've visited every country in the world; I've met all the great people of history, all the great minds, through books. Books have been like the breath of life to me and I figure I've read between 7,000 and 8,000 of them."

It has been a rule with him to read something good every night before going to sleep. So intent was he in that resolution that after getting into a train berth at Edmonton one night, and realizing that he had no reading, he got up and dressed and went down the street to buy a book.

And then, speaking from the heart, he said to me, "If I were starting again, I don't know of anything I'd rather do than ranch and be a free man. You know, Grant, life on the land brings out the best in people. The finest people I ever encountered were the men and women of the pioneer farm and ranch communities."

### INSTALMENT WORRY

She — "Why so thoughtful, dear?"

He — "I have one dollar over this week and can't remember which instalment I forgot to pay."

### DADDY'S FAULT

In preparation for a coming event little Joan had been told that daddy had placed an order for a baby brother. Twin girls arrived, and when Joan surveyed them she said to her mother: "Why didn't you order the baby yourself? You know how daddy always gets things mixed up when he goes shopping."



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# The Mystery of The Egg

By E. GROULX

3,500 years ago a Chinaman found a scrubby bird living in a tree, and scaring it from the nest discovered within some eggs. He broke one, quite by chance, and being exceedingly hungry, tasted it and found it good. Quickly he broke the others and consumed them.

Thus it occurred to him to domesticate these fowls, and although the birds produced only a few eggs, it was at that time a satisfactory return for the trouble involved. A humble beginning — the birds themselves were tough and not desirable for food and their eggs might not have carried the flavor which would please the modern housewife, but from this humble beginning originated our own domestic fowls. Such menial labor was doubtless frowned upon at that time, yet the attention given to this apparently small matter has resulted in a billion-dollar industry today.

The descendants of those first wild birds no longer stop at half a dozen eggs, but flocks of them now average annually 200 to 250 eggs per hen, and furnish the tables of the country with the most delicate of meats. The attention given small matters has built this tremendously important industry and has made it a highly specialized profession.

We must not allow ourselves to forget the small things in the poultry business that are essential to success. Many birds suffer with colds and the difficulty is improper ventilation. If moisture-laden air is admitted into the house it is apt to become wet and the litter damp. Do not house 400 chickens in accommodations prepared for 200. Small feature — to be sure, but sufficiently important to be upset-

ting all good things being practised.

## Ventilation is Vital.

Because the air in the house is invisible, and because at the altitude of our heads we have little comprehension of the fumes and gasses congregating around the area of the floor, proper ventilation may seem to us to be one of the minor details. Painful experiences are having a tendency to alter the opinion on ventilation, and now it is less difficult to convince poultrymen that the money used for correct ventilation is wisely spent than was the case some years ago. "Human felicity is produced not so much by great pieces of good fortune that seldom happen as by the little advantages that occur every day." Ventilation — which seems to be a simple thing amongst many poultrymen is very vital, and receives little consideration.

The egg is a fragile food item and will deteriorate rapidly under unfavorable condition. Nature created the egg as part of a reproductive cycle — not as a food. As long as we allow nature's reproductive laws to manifest themselves, the egg will do its best to reproduce. Certain controls, therefore, are necessary to preserve it so that it can be used as a food.

The egg is a biological, as well as a chemical entity. After being laid, only warmth is needed to produce a chick. The material inside the egg is so balanced that it will supply all the needed ingredients to produce blood, feathers, meat and bone. If the egg is fertile, you have a chemical change which goes via the biological route. If it is infertile, you have a chemical change that will manifest itself through the decomposition of its con-

tents. When the female chick is hatched the ovary contains all the ova (minute yolks) representing all the eggs it will lay in its life time. As the pullet reaches laying age the ovum ripens and drops from the ovary into the egg-laying tract. If fertilization is to take place, it does so immediately before the formation of any egg white. Nature now begins its job of wrapping up the yolk with its incorporated germ so that the completed egg will contain within it the ingredients with which life can be produced.

## Describing the Egg

As a rule a normal egg contains no bacteria. Nature equipped the egg white with germicidal properties which prevent bacteria from entering the egg. This substance known as lysozyme is a form of chlorine. Nature also uses this chlorine as a source of hydrochloric acid which assists in digesting the ingredients within the egg so that they can readily turn into blood.

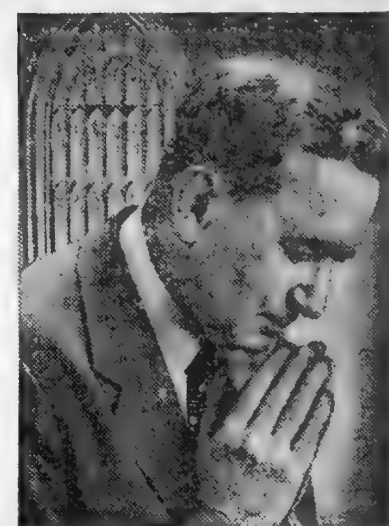
An egg is laid at a temperature of 104 degrees. If laid in an atmosphere below 104 degrees it contracts. Since the shell is rigid and contains more pores at the top of the blunt end the air cell forms at that point. The air cell is the lung of the egg. Through the air cell it breathes, just as in warm-blooded animals. Similarly the oxygen turns to carbon dioxide within the air cell. Carbon dioxide forms an acid balance which complements the chlorine within the white. At the point of the maximum chlorine and carbon dioxide content, we have in the egg the finest quality condition.

To understand more fully why an egg which is old will not hatch and why the rate of breakdown in an old egg is more rapid than in a fresh egg,

(Continued on page 19)

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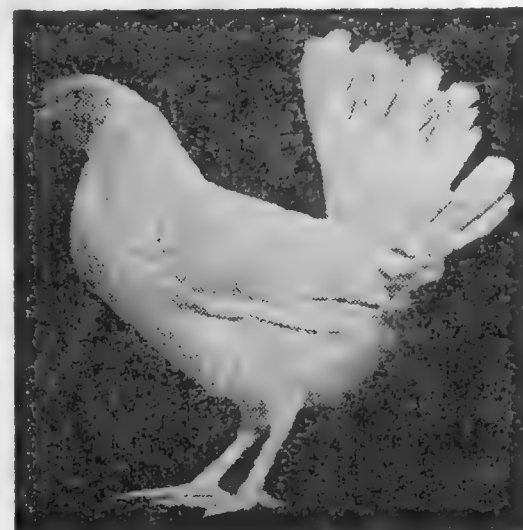
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# Large Scale Cattle Feeding Project On Noble Farms

By JOE BALLA

**D**R. C. S. Noble, the great farmer industrialist of Nobleford, Alberta, 16 miles north of Lethbridge, has ventured on a new project on the extensive Noble farms. Large numbers of feeder cattle are being fattened in feed-lots with grain and silage grown on dry land. This plan could show the way to small and large scale livestock feeding operations on the dry land regions of North America. Hitherto finishing cattle has been confined mainly to areas of plentiful rainfall or irrigated districts.

The contribution made to agriculture in Alberta by Dr. Noble has gained for him the honor of being appointed a member of the Order of the British Empire, the honorary degree of doctor of laws from the University of Alberta and the distinction of being among the first to have his portrait placed in Alberta's Agricultural Hall of Fame in Edmonton.

Apart from being a successful farmer he is also a substantial manufacturer. He invented the Noble blade which tills the soil and leaves the trash on top, effectively preventing wind erosion. His plant at Nobleford is kept busy with the demand from all over the continent.

Today, at 83, "C. S." as he is known to his many friends, has not "called it quits". He has plunged into this new cattle feeding project on the extensive scale which has characterized his farming operations in the past. Low-grade wheat, oats and barley are hard to sell. But feeder cattle will consume vast quantities the year round and ready cash obtained therefor. On the Noble feed-lots up to 100,000 bushels of grain a year may be fed. Weed control ties in with the Noble program for rye, oats and barley can be cut for feed in the shot blade or just before heading out and weeds will be destroyed in the cutting. Depending on the moisture several cuttings can be taken in one season.

## Grain for Silage

During last summer on the Noble Farms, a 90-acre field of a mixture of oats and field peas and 100 acres of unripened Durum and Canus wheat, yielded approximately 1,400 tons of silage. The oats and peas mixture was destined for silage, but the Durum and Canus wheat were not. When the early September frosts were threatening, and it became evident that the two wheat varieties would not ripen in time to prevent frost damage, they were cut green, making use of a large quantity of valuable feed. Thanks to the cattle the otherwise almost worthless crops became high-priced feed.

Thousands of bales of dryland alfalfa and greenfeed rounded out the feed

supply from the roughage side for the approximately 900-head of cattle now on feed. Added to the silage was a small amount of Warrior barley. This beardless variety was planted on an experimental basis, but proved to be a heavy yielder and made rapid come-backs after each cutting. Despite some almost phenomenal yields, no fertilizer was added to the feed crops on the Noble Farms last year. All silage was cut while the plants were young and tender and before the stalks took on any woody texture. For 1957, at least 400 acres of dryland are destined for silage.

The balance of the 4½-section Noble Farm, immediately east of the town of Nobleford, raised flax and Durum wheat last year. A new flax variety, Raja, tried on the farm last year, yielded 31 bushels per acre on a 90-acre plot. Another field of over 400 acres of Redwood flax, which was sown a little earlier in the spring, yielded 32 bushels per acre.

These high averages were similar to those which set agricultural circles buzzing in 1915, when 1,075 acres of Banner oats on the farm went 126 bushels to the acre and the following year a 1,000-acre plot of Marquis wheat averaged 54.23 bushels to the acre. Those fantastic crops grown on dryland not only dwarfed Western Canada's averages into insignificance, but also at that time established world records for so large acreages. Heading the farming operations on the Noble Farms at the present time is Farm Foreman Hugh Gowley, well known throughout the south for his careful planning and model farming.

With the roughage side of the feeding operations taken care of by the new venture, the beef producing part of the feeding program is relatively a simple task for the Nobles at the present time. Flax and durum wheat, a macaroni flour-type wheat are probably the easiest grains to sell under present conditions. So the Nobles purchase feed grains from neighboring farmers who appreciate the market thus created.

## Cattle Feeding Project

The main feed-lot on the farm is divided into four pens as the photograph taken when the project was nearing completion shows. On a permanent year-round basis, each pen measuring 150 x 120 feet, will contain from 130 to 175 head of cattle depending on size. Another one-pen feed-lot which has since been completed is for finishing purposes only. It is slightly larger than a single section of the four-pen lot. In the finishing lot rolled grain will be constantly in front of the fattening animals along with reduced roughage rations. Come rain, snow, hail or blizzard, each pen has

its own plywood shelter — and one that is large enough for all the animals to seek cover.

Feeding time comes five times a day for the starters in the four-pen lot. Hay and straw in the morning, silage in the mid-morning, grain with supplement at noon, silage again in the mid-afternoon and grain again in the evening topped off with more roughage when the grain has been cleaned up.

An important feature of the feeding program is that all the animals are able to eat at once if they so desire. The feed bunks are located on two sides of each pen, placed so that the cattle reach to the alleys for their feed. This eliminates the possibility of disturbing the cattle as is the case when the feeder has to move in or about the cattle pens. It also makes the task of cleaning the feed bunks at regular intervals a relatively simple chore. Also by having the feed bunks along the alleys on either side and one down the centre running north and south, drive-ways make possible the use of mechanical equipment for feeding operations.

Incorporated with the bunks are wooden platforms for the cattle to stand on. The platforms are easily whisked out by a tractor, cleaned and replaced in relatively short order. Access to each pen is gained by large gates. Bulldozers or tractors with front-attached shovels can clean the pens in a short time.

A six-ton capacity Farmhand spreader is used for distributing the feed into the bunks with an adapted rear-attached mechanical elevator. This piece of equipment has made it possible to feed about 900 head in half an hour. The elevator can be detached and the Farmhand reverts to a manure spreader. Three men, including the cattle foreman, can easily care for up to 1,200 head of feeders at one time.

Two deep-well pumps keep a constant supply of fresh water in front of the animals. The water, which is kept at a constant level by automatic floats, is heated during the cold months.

## Selection of Feeders

In the finishing pen, where heavier cattle and short-keepers are pushed, they will be selected when ready in carload lots and shipped to market. As the finished cattle are marketed, others will replace the gap from the starter pens. Although the cattle in the four integrated pens are referred to as starters, many will be finished there and shipped directly to market. The large four-pen lot is being used primarily for feeding calves at the present time. One of the four pens is being used for light cattle requir-

ing extra supplements to grow them out.

Cattle Foreman John Farris at the Noble feed-lot is not prejudiced in any way against quality feeder cattle. He figures, however, that quality feeder prices are kept high by eastern buyers in Western Canada and for this reason often purchases the plainer kinds which will finish out at prices close to quality feeders. However, if quality feeders come along at the price, that is what John buys.

Most of the buying for the feed-lot is done at district community auction sales, such as those held at Pincher Creek, where cattle are usually in good condition from the summer grass ranges. The balance of the cattle are bought at central markets or direct from the producer. By keeping a sharp eye on the herd being bought, John points out that short-keepers and poorer quality cattle should balance each other out fairly evenly. But, he adds, the general idea is to obtain cattle fairly well matched for easier management.

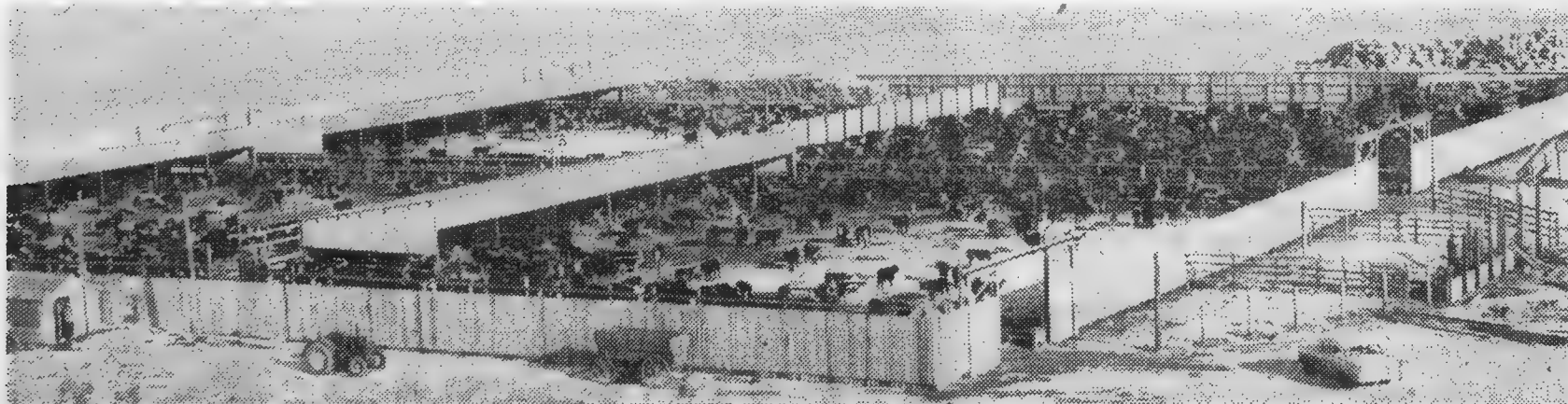
John has no exacting preference for breeds. The majority of cattle on feed are Herefords however, with some Shorthorns, some Aberdeen-Angus and some crosses.

Rolled mixed grain with supplements added, molasses, plus Vitamin A, to fortify the rations along with Aureomycin when needed, make up the concentrate portion of the ration. Stilbestrol will be tried experimentally in one of the pens to see if benefits will warrant the added cost.

An important sidelight of the project will be the fertilizer which will be returned to the land for its enrichment. To speed up decomposition, commercial fertilizer is added to the manure in the feed-lots, so that land will benefit the first year. Scientific research has proven that often times, when green manure is added to the land, the first-year crop may even be retarded in growth and yield because the bacteria and elements in the soil required for growth are drawn to the decomposition taking place in the manure. As a result, and especially if the fields are fertilized in the spring, it takes two years before benefit is derived from manure, unless treated.

Assisting the veteran scientific grain farmer and industrialist in the new venture are his two sons, Gerald and Shirley. The two sons have followed in their father's footsteps and are also living up to the reputation of nothing ventured, nothing gained, and never being satisfied that something can't be made better.

Experience gained at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm is being utilized to the utmost on the new project. The Nobles are working with Harry Hargrave, head of the animal husbandry section of the farm; Dr. Frank Whiting, nutritionist, and Ron Peake, head of the forage crop section.



Dry-land silage and rolled grain have been combined into a new cattle feeding venture at the Noble Farms, near Nobleford, Alberta. Shown above is the vast new four-pen, 240 x 300 feet corral, used primarily for the feeding of calves. In the pen at top right, a large number of steers were held for one day while waiting completion of another short-keep corral, where the heavier animals will be finished on full grain. Basic plans for the corral were drawn up by the Alberta department of agriculture through the district agriculturist's office at Lethbridge. On the right, selecting, receiving, loading and vaccinating chutes are being completed.



(Continued from page 15)

we should realize another essential in nature. All birds have a "clutch", that is the number of eggs a bird will lay before it sets on eggs to produce a family. A pigeon lays two eggs, a robin three eggs, a domestic hen may lay 10 to 14 eggs. Nature provided sufficient chlorine, carbon dioxide, and other ingredients within the egg and the bloom or the gelatinous cover on the outside of the shell to take care of the egg throughout the clutch period and the gestation period. The protective effect of these materials is lost after a period determined by the clutch.

At times the parturition of the yolk from the follicle of fowl, due to heredity more than anything else, ruptures the blood vessels. If the rupture occurs in one of the small capillaries some blood is released along with the yolk. If a larger blood vessel ruptures, much blood follows the yolk and the egg is unfit for any purpose. Where these ruptures occur a blood clot forms. At times the fallopian tube becomes inflamed causing a hard cyst to form around the spot and eventually it sloughs off and the egg is formed with a small or large white meat spot. These blood and meat spots run from slightly below 3 per cent to over 10 per cent of all eggs laid.

#### Inside the Egg

The air cell is a lung; it must breathe as soon as possible after the egg loses its body heat and is cooled. Eggs should be placed in the egg case air cell up. If put in the case air cell down the weight of the egg meat is against the air cell and the egg literally smothers, the chalaza releases its hold on the four layers of egg white above and below the yolk. The yolk then loses its anchor and drops down towards the shell.

The embryo of all fertile eggs begins to grow at 68 degrees, therefore all eggs should be handled under refrigeration as soon as possible after they are laid. Although the blood ring does not begin to form in an incubated egg until the third day, it has been shown that poultry meat formed in an egg can be found and weighed after the first 24 hours in the incubator. Refrigeration is necessary to preserve quality in eggs.

The heart can be seen pulsating within a network of blood vessels in three days at incubation temperatures. In five days the embryo will show the fully formed left eye and the beginning of the formation of the right eye as well as the formation of the backbone. In seven days, the beak, wings and feet become visible. The whole body has taken form. In ten days the embryo now fully formed, begins to stir within the egg and feathery down on its body has begun to form.

The volume of eggs entering the channels of commerce will be entirely controlled by the consumers' acceptance. Producers have a task to perform in controlling quality throughout the journey the egg makes from the producer to consumer. Many look upon the egg as being just another food item, quite inanimate in its make-up. At 29 to 31 degrees an egg will remain at grade A quality six months or longer if properly graded, packed in clean cases, fillers and flats.

Nobody wants an "almost good" egg. At certain seasons of the year, it used to be a great risk to order eggs in a restaurant. Now it is practically safe — another proof that the world is growing better. Eggs belong to the same food class as milk or meat, they are almost as perishable. The shell is porous and is not a protection against rough, unsanitary treatment. Dirt and filth and mold

and disease germs can pass through. The water of the egg will evaporate almost as fast as if it were in an open pan.

#### World Record Price For Turkey

A 32-POUND turkey brought \$1,040 at the sale in connection with the Alberta Poultry Show held in December. F. W. Hardy, of Rosemary, Alberta, was the producer of the bird which brought what is a world record price for a turkey, \$32.50 a lb. After the deduction of 20% or \$208 auction fee to the association, Mr. Hardy got \$832.

The high-priced turkey did not win top honors in the show, but gained a "special championship". The real grand champion was a broad-breasted Beltsville white produced by H. Iverson. It brought only \$126.

One buyer bidding for the Hardy turkey was under the impression that it was the top bird in the show. He



The thousand-dollar Turkey.  
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represented a chain store and his competitor in the bidding was from another chain and bids jumped at the rate of \$100 until the thousand-dollar mark was passed.

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fied by the publicity received. Also by the fact that a new world record was brought to Alberta.

Don Hanson, president of the association, said the show was the best in a quarter of a century.

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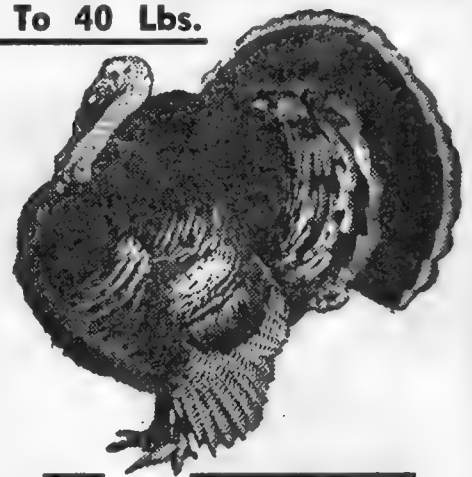
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Now you can get this new healing substance in suppository or ointment form called *Preparation H\**. Ask for it at all drug stores. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

\*Trade Mark Reg.

## Pioneer Ranching In The Foothills

By W. E. M. HOLMES

MY father was born in Montreal, mother in Quebec city, and I was born at the High River Crossing, seventy years ago. Both father and mother reached Winnipeg in the boom days of the late seventies or early eighties, when father pushed on west in 1882 and had to walk 400-odd miles in winter from Moose Jaw to Calgary. Mother came later when the railroad had reached Calgary. When I was born the settlement at High River comprised of not more than half a dozen buildings, all log but one, and by the time when I was able to remember there were eleven buildings.

There are very few today who can give you the historical data of the early pioneer ranching days, nevertheless, even if I have been serving at High River as your postmaster for the past twenty-one years, I have had my innings. I have done everything with stock, both cattle and horses, except spay heifers, so I will attempt to give you the heyday of the Bar U Ranch.

The famous Bar U ranch commenced operating in 1882, or as early as 1880. The Allans of the Allan Steamship Company of Montreal formed the North West Cattle Company and applied to the Dominion Government for 40,000 acres of leasehold land, and got it (likely for 2c an acre, being 1c to cover leasehold fee and 1c for tax). Fred S. Stimson also of Montreal (and I understand a relative of the Allans) was sent out west and appointed manager. It appears that his wife's sister, married to a Captain Winder of the North West Mounted Police, was already out west and, even if Stimson was a green cow hand, he really settled down to business as it was evident that the Allans had great faith in him. When Stimson arrived he fell in with a Tom Lynch, George Emerson and a John Barter, squatters on the "Round T" ranch site, and in 1883 he engaged Lynch to buy and trail in 3,000 head of cattle from Lost River, Idaho, to stock the ranch. Lynch left Lost River with his herd in May and arrived back at the Bar U on the

Round T ranch site in September that same year, and it is noted that "Nigger" John Ware also came along with the herd. He is recalled as one of the most colorful figures in the west.

The Bar U brand, on both cattle and horses was registered at Fort Macleod on January 11, 1882, and as time rolled on, other brands were recorded, such as the HL, the BX, the 10, the YT, the Double Circle, the Flying U and the 21 brands, which were undoubtedly brands transferred from other herd owners disposing of their entire herd to the Bar U to save the bother of re-branding and venting. To identify ownership of stock in winter when the hair is long brand reading is difficult, in view of which stockmen resort to other means of identification called "Marks" also registered with the Recorder of Brands. The Bar U had four marks registered, a wattle made on the left side of the neck of the animal; an underbite taken from the left ear; an undercrop from the right ear; and a downcut made on the brisket. These marks are made with a sharp jack-knife or cattle-knife.

Some cow hands claim that stock will usually mill around to the left when closely herded or corraled, consequently, such owners prefer to brand on the left side of the animal, though I am not convinced of this fact, I am rather of the opinion that the left side became a habit or possibly the early cow hands may have been far sighted enough to realize that branding on the one side saved the bother of looking on both sides of an animal for brands.

A year later Stimson secured the ownership of a new location for the Bar U ranch with large holdings on Pekisko Creek, when the Mount Head Cattle Company or the HL ranch, operating between their new site and the Gardner place, with 2,000 head of cattle, becoming amalgamated with the Bar U, increasing their herd to some 5,000 odd head. George Lane was born near Des Moines, Iowa, in 1856, and came in from Montana in 1884, and by the end of that same year the Bar U had 5,900 acres under lease with Lane appointed as foreman.

### George Lane Buys Bar U

Under the Stimson management the Bar U ranch became a huge success and continued to flourish until some-

time around 1902, when for some unknown reason to the manager, his eastern interests suddenly decided to dispose of their entire holdings, together with all chattels for the tidy sum of \$225,000 cash, to George Lane of High River, and his partners Gordon, Ironsides and Fares of Winnipeg, operating as equal owners.

Now Fred Stimson was undoubtedly one of the greatest characters the west has ever known, he was a great story teller. He loved to hunt and fish, but he never docked the wages of the cowboys as nobody got wages in those days. Besides he was just as great a friend to any cowboy as any man could be, he kept his top men or they would not have stayed with him. Undoubtedly the Nitchies did miss their bread and jam for Fred was a great friend to the Indians and no doubt the cowboys were jealous when the Indians got their bread and jam while they got their bread without the jam. Fred entertained extensively his influential friends from the east, from the old country and world wide, and especially those who loved to hunt and fish and see the great wild west. Indeed, I even got in on some of his invitations when I was a young gaffer between ten and fifteen years of age when I would ride horseback up to Stimson's to spend a week at a stretch up the Highwood where the Stimsons had three Indian tepees pitched during the hunting and fishing season each year.

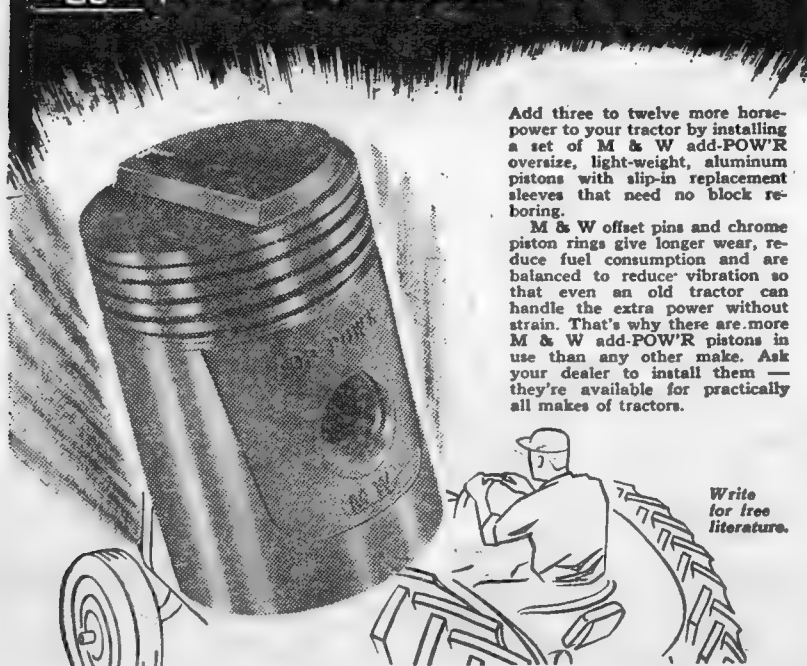
In the early days Lane brought in a 1,000 head of horses for the Bar U, bought from a Montana rancher by the name of Meldon, branded with a Diamond O on the left hip. I remember when we lived on the homestead south of town, I recognized a lovely team of blacks which Alex MacDougall had bought from the Bar U, grazing along the old Calgary and Macleod trail one Sunday noon, but definitely headed south. Monday morning two riders followed them to Macleod and couldn't catch up to them. The following year George Lane brought them back again from their old home in Montana along with another 800 head bought from Dan Flurray, of Sun River, Montana, branded with an "F" on the left hip.

In 1919 George Lane became sole owner of the Bar U and continued to operate same as a cattle ranch until his death in 1925. At one time he bred a number of Percheron horses and indeed held the proud and unique distinction of owning the largest herd of purebred Percheron horses in the world, over 400 of these magnificent animals roamed the different pastures, while importations of blue-blooded stock from La Belle, France, ran into thousands of dollars. In the horse days when the Bar U Percheron herd were at their peak, it will be recalled that Alex Fleming was the outstanding teamster, who accompanied all exhibits, and the magnificent string team of Percherons that were his special pride and concern. But the horses were later moved away to some of Lane's other holdings and disposed of owing to the decline in the horse industry.

Herb Miller played a big part in the activities of the Bar U for he was the one who brought in the first bulls from the States in 1882, before there were any cattle on the ranch and he stayed on with the ranch until 1933, in the capacity of top bronk rider, and foreman to run the outfit. In the last laps of his career he ran the Namaka farm, and I am told he made it pay off in a couple of years' time. It is hard to believe, but Herb would have as many as a hundred head of horses out in the fields working on the land at one time. This farm was eventually sold to a settlement of Mennonites.

(Continued on page 22)

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## U. S. Soil Bank Program

THE United States land area is approximately 1,904,000,000 acres, of which 450,000,000 acres is plowland, 300,000,000 acres is cropland and the balance of 150,000,000 acres in pasture and fodder crops.

Expansion during and after the last war and more efficient methods of farming, including the extensive use of commercial fertilizer, has resulted in production of a volume of crops greater than the market will absorb at reasonably profitable prices.

The U.S. government policy has provided fairly high floor prices, which encouraged production, with a government agency taking over surpluses. Over \$10 billion of government money is involved therein and antagonism has been created among other surplus food producing nations because of the various methods adopted by the U.S. government to get rid of surpluses.

The soil bank plan put into effect last year provides that farmers will be paid for taking land out of crop production and placing it under forage crops or in summerfallow. About 10,700,000 acres of wheat land for the 1957 crop has been signed up for the soil bank. This will cut the wheat acreage from 55,000,000 to 45,000,000 for the 1957 crop. The farmers will receive \$200 millions in payment therefor.

But the problem is not only in wheat but in such basic crops as corn, cotton, peanuts, etc. And the tendency will be to place the low-producing acreages in the soil bank and retain in crop the high-producing land. What seems actually to be needed is the re-grassing of some 40,000,000 acres in order to balance supply with effective demand.

The plan will encounter many problems for a transition of such a proposal on such a wide basis cannot be painless. The alternative, however, is to continue to amass an increasing volume of surpluses.

## ELECTRIC PUZZLE WINNER

Some 2,000 Alberta answers were mailed to the President Electric Puzzle advertised in the November issue of The Farm and Ranch Review. The Alberta winner was Mrs. R. W. Foster, Box 323, Carstairs, Alberta. The exact count was 57 people.

In the sale of Shorthorns at the International Show, Canadian bulls averaged \$1,235 and females \$600. The Richardson Stock Farm, Winnipeg, got \$3,000 for a 22-months-old bull.

## Book Review

"Growing Flowers," by John H. Tobe (Hunter-Rose, publishers, \$5.00) will teach you more about gardening than if you took a course in botany or read an encyclopedia. It is written in easy, down-to-earth language, with a dash of humor for flavor. Even those who are not gardeners will enjoy its philosophy, yarns and fun.

Did you know that olive pits are used to cure stomach ulcers?

Did you know that gardeners live longer than folks who don't garden?

Did you know that rolling a lawn is harmful?

Did you know that there is a tropical forest in the frozen north in Alaska?

Did you know that experts agree that seeding a lawn is better and costs less than sodding?

Do you know why the willow weeps?

All these and hundreds of other interesting, humorous, unusual and informative facts are contained in this volume.

## Western Industry

KIRK'S Heating Limited is a thriving industry located in the town of Three Hills, Alberta, and manufacturing a full line of coal-fired furnaces. A special feature, the self-cleaning stoker, is also manufactured at this plant. Kirk's install all types of heating, including natural gas, propane and oil-fired units. The products have gained widespread approval across Western Canada.

R. P. Kirk, now in his 74th year, had the enterprise and ability to launch this manufacturing business. Born at Gallingertown, Ontario, one of a family of eleven children, he came to Alberta in 1906 and was engaged in the heating business in Calgary for ten years. In 1916 the attraction of the land impelled him to go into farming in the Three Hills district. In 1929 he gave up farming and opened a sheet metal shop in Three Hills, in 1930, where he manufactured the famous "Alberta Winner" steel furnace.

The great depression had started then, but Mr. Kirk was determined to succeed and his product gained the approval of more customers every year, and business steadily increased. In 1950, Kirk's self-cleaning stoker was put on the market. Business expanded by leaps and bounds and now includes installations in Saskatchewan and British Columbia, as well as from Milk River in the south to Peace River in the north in Alberta. It takes a large fleet of trucks and a growing staff to handle the increasing demand for automatic coal-fired heating equipment. The main feature is the low cost of operation.

R. P. Kirk is still active in the business. A son, Murray, shares in the enterprise, while George Reed, born and raised in Three Hills, is the general manager.

"What," said the high-school English teacher to a pupil, "can you tell me about John Milton?"

"Well," said the pupil, "he was a poet. He got married and wrote 'Paradise Lost'. Then his wife died and he wrote 'Paradise Regained!'"

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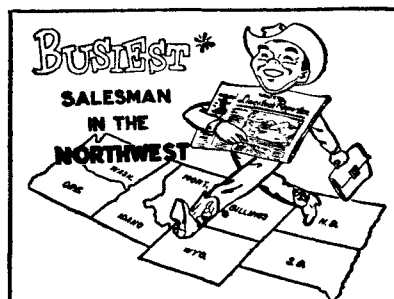
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### WESTERN LIVESTOCK REPORTER

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## Pioneer Ranching

(Continued from page 20)

Another of Lane's top cow hands was Lem Sexsmith, ranch foreman for years on the Flying E ranch on Willow Creek. Lem was a brother-in-law of George Lane and one of a large family who settled at High River in 1883. He also ranched for himself on the Little Bow in the early years.

### Pat Burns Buys

In 1925 George Lane passed away and Pat Burns bought the ranch. The Hon. A. J. McLean, born 1860 in Elgin County, Ontario, a member of the Legislative Assembly, Provincial Secretary during Premier A. L. Sifton's term of office, took over. Archie McLean was a managing partner of the famous CY outfit of Southern Alberta, from 1887 for twenty years hence. He was one of the Big Four Cattlemen of the North West Territories, namely: Pat Burns, George Lane, A. E. Cross and Archie McLean, who became manager of the Bar U holdings for the Lane estate until 1927. Then the ranch comprising 36,000 acres of deeded land, with 60,000 acres of leased land, with 6,000 odd head of cattle and 500 head of horses were sold for \$750,000 or three quarters of a million dollars. After Burns' death in 1937, the Bar U was operated by Burns Ranches Limited for the Burns' estate. Burns was known the world over as the "Cattle King" of Canada and in addition to the Bar U the late Senator Burns owned and operated the Flying E on Willow Creek, the OH on the Highwood and the E. Douglas Hardwick or the Lazy H at Armada, 65 miles east of High River out past Lake McGregor, also the New Oxley or the old 44 ranch, on Trout Creek, west of Claresholm. Finally it was decided that these large holdings could not be disposed of intact to any one person, company or enterprise and in order to wind up the estate in 1950, it had to be divided into many ownerships. While the Bar U of the past still exists it has been somewhat reduced in size to 4,480 acres in deeded land, 16,000 acres in lease and to 2,000 head of cattle, which is being very successfully managed under the ownership of J. Allen Baker, who was born and raised in the High River district, and has proved himself to be a whirlwind of an auctioneer, in fact one of the best in Alberta.

Now the foregoing is a sample of what can be told of the many ranches that exist throughout the country, for instance, the Two Dot, first homesteaded by Jack Norrish, an Ex-N.W.M. Policeman, who sold out to H. B. Alexander, who with his brother owned the Alexander Corner, in Calgary, occupied by the Molson's Bank, who sold out to Pemberton and Ward

(Frank Ward played on the first High River Polo team with Major George Ross, Harry Robertson and Marston Sexsmith). When the Earl of Minto became the owner, the ranch became known as the Minto Ranch. Prof. W. L. Carlyle, Dr. G. D. Little, V.S., and a Jack Graham, who returned to Scotland, operated the ranch and now it is owned and operated by Claude Gallinger. Then there is the Bar XY or 84 down the Little Bow, first operated by Herbert Samson and Ben Hartford, who marked their cattle with both ears half cropped and split. This is the ranch where W. S. (Billy) Henry first held out for a number of years. All three concerned originated from the Old Country, in speaking of Billy Henry, he is the man who should be telling the story of the pioneer cattle days, he came to the High River district the year before I was born, as a young man and has been associated in the stock-raising business all his life. They ranched with 5,000 head of cattle and shipped out 1,200 head of beef each year. The Circle ranch was operated in the early days by the St. Louis, Benton Cattle Co. out of Lethbridge.

The Bar S Ranch Limited and the Rocking P Ranch are operated by the R. R. Macleay girls and their husbands, Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Blades and Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Chataway, formerly the Macleay Ranches Limited; then we have the Crawford-Frost Ranch at Nanton, with John Henry Herdsman in charge. The A7 ranch founded by A. E. Cross and now operated by Cross Bros. on the home place and the Willow Creek. I also recall a Thomas Crawford Langford, better known as "Paddy", who homesteaded on the Little Bow and had a wintering ranch in the hills on Willow Creek. He lost most of his herd of Clydesdale horses in a prairie fire that swept through the country in the late nineties; also the Westrope Bros. (Dick and Harry) neighbors of Paddy Langford on the Willow Creek as well. Paddy Langford sold out to Senator D. E. Riley and E. Fulton Thomson, who later dissolved partnership and now the late Senator's sons, George, Neil and Dan operate the estate between them. Mrs. Elsie Gordon, of Stavely, a daughter of George Lane, owns and operates the Oxley on Willow Creek. The Frank N. Bedingfield ranch which was sold to H.R.H. the Duke of Windsor has a big story. A lot can be told about the Seven U ranch, founded by J. H. Brown and widely known as "Seven U" Brown, whose tombstone bears the seven U insignia. Then there is the OH or the Rio Alta Ranch, owner by C. W. Roenisch and managed by Bert Sheppard, not forgetting the Round T or the Eden Valley and the Stampede ranches and numerous others.

All these enterprising concerns of the prairies were started on Old Country or Eastern capital, with the exception of the odd ranch in the south end of the Province. Canada and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company did a lot to advertise the wonderful opportunities that Canada had to offer, with the result that influential people were induced to come to Canada and come west.

The ranchers of the earlier years were required to hold their beef steers and dry cows until they were five and six years old. These were shipped to Liverpool, England, for delivery inland, where they were fed by English butchers before slaughtering, later the Old Country markets demanded that imported beef had to be butchered at the docks, which meant that all our beef had to be in top shape and conditioned to hold firm in order that beef might stand the voyage without too much shrink.

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NOON THERE'S

# LUCKY LISTENING LADIES

ON

# CKRD

9:00 - 10:00  
Community Special

10:00  
News.

10:05  
Who Am I?

10:15  
Mary Lou Calling.

10:30  
Eaton's Personal Shopper.

10:45  
Morning Memo's.

11:05  
Hits For the Mrs.

# CKRD

850 Kc. 1000 Watts  
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AT

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PEACE RIVER, ALTA.





On our way back from town a short while ago we saw a boy coming along the road driving some cattle. When we came nearer we were surprised to see him riding a bull calf instead of a horse. — Terry Grover (9), Hays, Alberta.

Last year while visiting with some friends at Watrous, Sask., I saw three large ripe tomatoes joined in a complete circle with a hole about 1½ inches across in the centre. This tomato weighed over 2 lbs. — J. A. Wick, Watrous, Sask.

Last spring mother decided to set our own hens. All of us were eager for them to hatch. When they did to our surprise one chick had four legs. Two of them were the same as others and the two others were dragging behind. We kept it for two weeks then Mom thought it looked too pitiful so we killed it. We were sorry afterwards, we should have kept it. — Lorraine Demers, Bonnyville, Alta.

One day last spring we were out looking for baby crows to be destroyed when we found a crow's nest in a tree. We climbed up and there were eight eggs that looked just like duck eggs, so we left them. After two weeks we went back there again and there were baby ducks in it, so we thought that was a good one. Nobody believed us, and they all went to see for themselves. — Miss Annie P. Walter, Pibroch, Alberta.

One night when I was milking I left the door open on the barn. One of our calves wouldn't come in, so I left it out, and while I was milking it came through the fence and went where the cats were drinking and licked the cats' dish empty. Then the calf went to the pen. — Joe K. Gans, Fairview, Alberta.

One day our cat got four little kittens. One morning a tom cat came and killed them all. Daddy saw the tom cat eating one of them. The next day I went to the neighbor's place and got a kitten. When I got home my sister was laying in the shade and the kitten played with her. I took it to the barn and the old cat fed the little kitten. I am 7 years old. — Florence Peterson, Iron River, Alta.

We had a wild young two-year-old colt, Buster, running in a pasture all by itself and no one could get near it all summer. One day my brother and I were walking along the fence looking for the milk cows and Buster came running up to us, and kept following us until we noticed he had about twenty porcupine quills in his nose, so we opened the gate and he came up to the barnyard by himself. Then Dad put him into the chute in the corral and got a fine pair of pliers and pulled out twenty-three porcupine quills. Buster is not nearly as shy as he was any more. — Miss Corine B. Goodwin, Box 15, Trossachs, Sask.

In my summer holidays I go out to my grandma's and grandpa's farm. They have an old horse named Queen. They have gobblers and roosters, and they chase you all around the farmyard. When I ride on the horse, she always turns around when she is alone, and she doesn't like going after the cows. They have a black and white puppy. When we go out to the farm he always jumps up on me. — Murray Taylor, Creelman, Sask.

One day my uncle asked me if I wanted to help him feed the pigs. I said to him, "O.K." At 3.30 we went down to the pig barn, and, as we came nearer, we saw that all the pigs were dancing around and around, as if they were drunk. My uncle said to me: "What's the matter with those pigs? I never seen them doing these stunts before." They groaned and moaned, while some even went to sleep. While we were watching, some of them began to run after us. I couldn't help myself, so I laughed out loud and said: "Oh! Uncle, I think this must be from the choke cherries and wine which I fed them at noon." Then he got after me and took me by my leg and gave me a good spanking. I didn't laugh then, but told him to spank the pigs next time when they are bad. — Paul J. Wipf, Shaunavon, Sask.

My sister, brother and mother were eating dinner. Mamma told them to look out the window. When they looked out the window they saw a magpie. It was picking seeds and things out of the grass. My sister said we should get our cage and catch it, but we couldn't do that. My brother said, "No! Why do that. I should get Daddy's twenty-two and shoot it." Mom wouldn't let him do that. As soon as he mentioned the twenty-two the magpie flew away. — Linda Moorhouse, Breton, Alberta.

The trouble with being a breadwinner nowadays is that the government is in for such a big slice.

Mr. Grouch: Woman is nothing but a rag, a bone and a hank of hair.

Mrs. Grouch: Man is nothing but a brag, a groan and a tank of air.

A visitor at the home of a professor of psychology asked the son how old he was.

"That is a difficult question," was the reply. "The latest personal survey shows my psychological age to be 12, my moral age 4, my anatomical age 7 and my physiological age 6. I suppose, however, you are referring to my chronological age, which is 8. But that is so old-fashioned I seldom mention it."

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Bougies or Ointment

The original "DOUBLE ACTION" penicillin—streptomycin products that have proven so effective in treating most common cases of Bovine Mastitis. VioBin P.M. "wax type" Bougies are more flexible—easier to insert, fully soluble.

### AVAILABLE:

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VioBin P.M. Ointment is prepared in a special non-irritating, odourless base that reaches into every crevice of the udder and assures an active concentration for 48 to 72 hours regardless of repeated milking.

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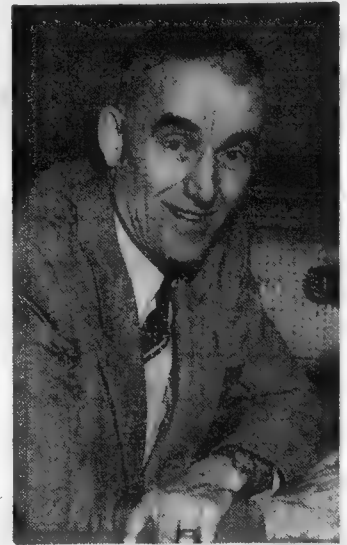
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## COMPLETE NEWS COVERAGE

from

**Radio Station  
CFQC**

Saskatoon

600 K.C. 5000 Watts

### A.M. NEWS...

6:15 — 6:20  
6:45 — 6:50  
7:15 — 7:20  
7:45 — 8:00  
8:30 — 8:35  
9:00 — 9:05  
10:00 — 10:05  
11:00 — 11:05

### THE WORLD TODAY

12:15 — 12:50 p.m.

### FACTS ABOUT FARMING

1:20 — 1:35 p.m.

### P.M. NEWS...

4:00 — 4:10  
5:45 — 6:10  
10:00 — 11:30 p.m.

### THE WORLD TO-NIGHT

11:00 — 11:30 p.m.

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## SATURDAY

ON

### YOUR FRIENDLY STATION



"IRV" SHORE

● 6:00 - 9:00 A.M.

● "SHORE IS EARLY"

● Times — Temperatures — News — Sports — Music.

● 9:00 - 12:00 A.M.

● "TOP FIFTY"

● The tunes leading the nation's hit parade.



"WES" SAUNDERS



"MIKE" DAROW

● 1:15 - 4:00 P.M.

● "TOWN AND COUNTRY"

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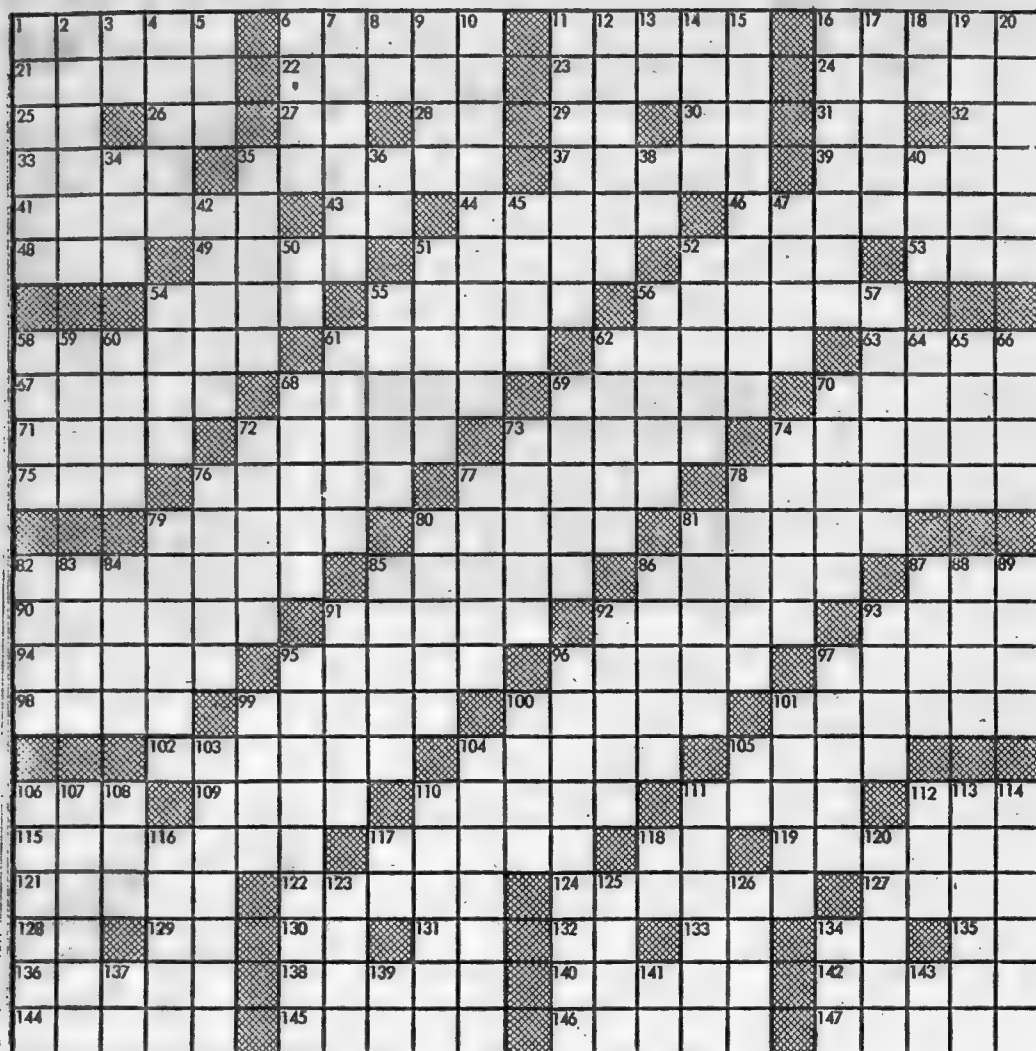
● For Good Listening every day of the Week

# CFRN - RADIO

DIAL 1260 — EDMONTON, ALBERTA



## Crossword Puzzle



**ACROSS**

- 1 Indifferent
- 6 Slumber
- 11 Donor
- 16 Aids
- 21 Artist's stand
- 22 Tree
- 23 Idolize
- 24 A sheepwalk (Eng.)
- 25 I am (contr.)
- 26 Sun god
- 27 Cooled lava
- 28 Note of scale
- 29 French article
- 30 Preposition
- 31 Child for father
- 32 A direction
- 33 Nerve network
- 35 Beach
- 37 City of Crete (Bib.)
- 39 Deduce
- 41 Chaplet (poet.)
- 43 Symbol for nickel
- 44 Angry
- 46 American chestnut
- 48 As it stands (mus.)
- 49 Period of time (pl.)
- 51 Part in play
- 52 Skin disease
- 53 Raised transportation lines
- 54 To weary
- 55 Slope
- 56 Inclinations
- 58 Rigorous

- |     |                                   |     |                         |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| 61  | F. ———                            | 102 | Merchant                |
|     | Fitzgerald, author                | 104 | Rodent                  |
|     |                                   | 105 | To till                 |
| 62  | Threefold                         | 106 | Place                   |
| 63  | Warmth                            | 109 | Birds of                |
| 67  | Region not definitely bounded     |     | the cuckoo family       |
| 68  | Inclined trough                   | 110 | Places of trade         |
| 69  | Wound with a missile              | 111 | Fruit                   |
|     |                                   | 112 | Stuff                   |
| 70  | Class                             | 115 | Large desert of Egypt   |
| 71  | Equine fare                       |     |                         |
| 72  | Fades away                        | 117 | American author         |
| 73  | Golf club                         |     |                         |
| 74  | Any decisive moment               | 118 | U.S. soldier            |
|     |                                   | 119 | Sold                    |
| 75  | Mimic                             | 121 | Denuded                 |
| 76  | Inn                               | 122 | Large dogs              |
| 77  | Keen                              | 124 | Occurrences             |
| 78  | Heavenly bodies                   | 127 | English boys' school    |
| 79  | Official staff (pl.)              | 128 | Exists                  |
| 80  | Disdain                           | 129 | Symbol for selenium     |
| 81  | Talk foolishly                    | 130 | A negation              |
| 82  | Metal urn                         | 131 | Sloth                   |
| 85  | Avoids                            | 132 | Japanese marine measure |
| 86  | To ice                            |     |                         |
| 87  | Edible seed                       | 133 | Hawaiian hawk           |
| 90  | Pear-shaped pot used in chemistry | 134 | Symbol for silver       |
| 91  | Tricky (slang)                    | 135 | A negative              |
| 92  | Turning device                    | 136 | At no time              |
|     |                                   | 138 | Philippine barge        |
| 93  | Happy                             | 140 | Home of famous witch    |
| 94  | Baffling problem                  |     |                         |
| 95  | Uncloses                          | 142 | Mark of omission        |
| 96  | Candid                            |     |                         |
| 97  | Serf                              | 144 | Prepares for print      |
| 98  | Observes                          |     |                         |
| 99  | Attempts                          | 145 | German city             |
| 100 | Is used as a spice                | 146 | College officials       |
| 101 | Gems                              | 147 | Evade                   |

**DOWN**

- 1 Antelopes of Somali-land
- 2 Deplore
- 3 While
- 4 Withered
- 5 Guido's high note
- 6 Command to cat
- 7 Memorizes
- 8 Man's nickname
- 9 Merit
- 10 Base upon
- 11 A young blood
- 12 Preconceive
- 13 Verso (abbr.)
- 14 American Indian
- 15 Being born again
- 16 Desired with eagerness
- 17 Smooth and gentle
- 18 Babylonian deity
- 19 Of the nature of ringworm
- 20 Part of ship (pl.)
- 34 Chinese pagoda
- 35 To sting
- 36 Sloth
- 38 A direction
- 40 Exclamation of disgust
- 42 Proclamation
- 45 To lease
- 47 Feminine name
- 50 Old pronoun

- |                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 51 Narrow openings               | 89 Hot weather drinks        |
| 52 Greek poet of Lesbos          | 91 Secret agents             |
| 54 Twitchings                    | 92 Rood                      |
| 55 Short ear                     | 93 Shine                     |
| 56 A body of cavalry             | 95 Public enactment          |
| 57 Tomb of a saint               | 96 Quivered                  |
| 58 Portico                       | 97 Retail shop               |
| 59 Snare                         | 99 Sumatran squirrel         |
| 60 Estimate                      | shrew                        |
| 61 Recoils                       | 100 Part of apple            |
| 62 Source of irritation          | 101 Thick flat pieces        |
| 64 Alleviate                     | 103 Predatory incursionists  |
| 65 Mine entrance                 | 104 Fine house               |
| 66 — of the D'Urbevilles         | 105 Hebrew letter            |
| 68 Supply food to                | 106 The Torrey pine          |
| 69 Boxes                         | 107 Rubbed out               |
| 70 Framework with bars across it | 108 Pitch                    |
| 72 Of a central point            | 110 Danger                   |
| 73 Gleaned                       | 111 To shackle               |
| 74 Prattle                       | 112 Stroke lightly           |
| 76 June —, actress               | 113 Made expiation for       |
| 77 Moves speedily                | 114 Signify                  |
| 78 Mischievous act               | 116 To perplex               |
| 79 Unassuming                    | 117 Symbol for barium        |
| 80 Part of leg (pl.)             | 118 Earth goddess            |
| 81 Smoothing tool                | 120 Royal                    |
| 82 Weakens                       | 123 Kind of soil             |
| 83 Succulent plant               | 125 Climbing plant           |
| 84 Brood                         | 126 Rocky pinnacles          |
| 85 Scoff                         | 134 High card                |
| 86 Solemn                        | 137 Roman number             |
| 87 Design                        | 139 State (abbr.)            |
| 88 Overhanging roof edge         | 141 Ambary                   |
|                                  | 143 Symbol for rutherfordium |

## HEALTH AND HAPPINESS

Breathing through the mouth permits germs and dirt to pass directly into the throat and lungs. Breathing through the nose warms and filters the air.

The common cabbage is a valuable food, containing vitamins and minerals necessary to good health. Serve it raw or cooked, as a separate vegetable or an ingredient in stews or soups.

A bowl of hot whole-grain cereal makes a welcome addition to the breakfast menu, especially on chilly days. The addition of maple or corn syrup or brown sugar gives variety to the flavor.

If the first set of teeth are healthy, the second or permanent set will have a better chance of growing in straight and strong. At three years of age, Junior should start his visits to his dentist.

Many small children have lost their lives through whooping cough. Those who recover are often left with some impairment of heart, lungs, ears or the brain. Immunization provide protection against this disease.

Coughs and colds keep workers and students out of circulation every winter. To avoid the common cold, eat balanced meals, get plenty of rest and avoid people who cough and sneeze without covering nose and mouth with a disposable tissue.

Bunions are painful and disfiguring and they are often the result of wearing ill-fitting shoes, especially during childhood. Small girls should not be permitted to try toe dancing without proper training and the correct shoes.

If Junior, in a tantrum, tells his mother he hates her, she need not take this to heart. It is merely another of his methods of getting his own way. By leaving him alone for a while, not in the dark or other frightening place, he will come to his senses much sooner.

To help in preventing anaemia, foods rich in iron should be eaten. These include liver, kidney, beef, eggs, whole grain cereals, raisins and dried apricots, which will help to keep the blood in good condition.

Persistent blueness in a baby under ten months of age may be due to well water cyanosis, if the child's formula has been prepared from water from natural sources in which there is an excess of nitrates. A doctor should be consulted immediately if such a condition appears.

During his first year, a baby should be checked for his growth and development by his doctor or the well-baby clinic. Regular weighing is important, since he should gain about a pound and a half in his first three months. He should double his birth weight in five months, tripling it at the end of the first year.

Prior to 1940 the rate of heart attacks was twice as high among men as among women. Since then the rate for women has gone up rapidly and now nearly equals men. The reason given therefor is increased smoking among women and the greater number in the older age brackets. Excess weight does not appear to be an important contributing factor.

## Wool Prospects

THE demand for wool throughout the world seems to be in excess of the supply and prices have advanced in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and South America. "Wool News," issued by the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Ltd., is optimistic over the future. Inroads by synthetic fabrics is on the decline and world demand for wool is heavy. Wool fabric industries are growing in Germany, Italy and Japan so that consumption of wool is increasing in those countries.

The threat of war has also had its influence in increasing demand for wool, and Australia reports brisk buying in face of the withdrawal of Soviet Russia from auctions there.

Output of wool textiles in Japan increased steadily during 1956. In the third quarter of the year the increase over the same period of the previous year was 45%. In a dozen manufacturing countries the output of wool textiles was substantially above that of the previous year.

## The Okanagan Apple Problem

OLIVER, B.C. (Special) — Many apple growers are pondering over the possibility of real trouble arising over the tumult created by a "ginger group" who are demanding a royal commission to investigate fruit marketing in this province. Certain interests in the trade would like to see the one desk selling plan go on the rocks, which would happen if the marketing act is discredited.

The year 1955 was a tough one for selling apples, especially the McIntosh, on the prairie market as our crop was two weeks later than Ontario and Quebec Macs and they got the jump on us. They had a huge crop and slashed prices. Prospects are for selling the 1956 crop at better prices.

One of the leaders in the insurgent group stated he got 5½¢ a box for small cee grade Macs. He said he picked up a cellophane bag of apples weighing two pounds, in Vancouver, and the price was 19¢, which works out at \$4 a box. They were cee grade Delicious, small in size. But no cee-grade Delicious were packed in the Okanagan that year, all being diverted for processing. The suggestion that a \$4 box of apples brought the grower only a nickle was widely publicized.

Growers here got \$2.40 a box for extra fancy large red Delicious with mediums, \$2.25. Small size cee grades were not packed. Extra fancy Winesaps brought \$1.89 a box and cee-grade smalls brought 51¢.

Growers simply cannot make a profit growing cee-grade fruit. These come mainly from old, low-producing, off-variety trees. Only too many orchards will have to be cleaned out and replanted with young, vigorous trees of the best varieties. The trouble is that it takes ten years to become productive. Then, too many orchards are too small for production therefrom to support a family. Plenty of growers are in a tough spot, but tearing down the marketing agency will not better their position, and will likely worsen it to a tragic degree.

It is anticipated that by March 1, 1957, the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture and Co-operation and the Manitoba Farmers' Union will have completed amalgamation. W. J. Landreth, secretary of the negotiating committee so reports. However, the approval of the boards of directors of the two organizations must be obtained.

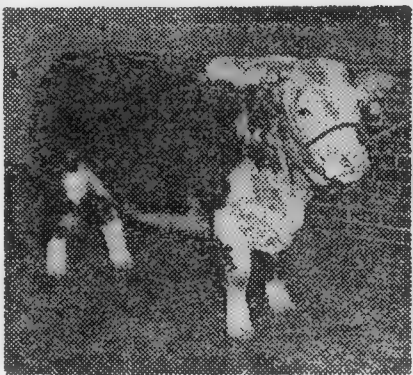
## Balzac Seed Cleaning Plant

Along No. 1 Highway at Balzac, Alberta, just north of Calgary, stands a new seed cleaning plant built by the farmers of Rockyview Municipal District. It was officially opened last December by R. M. Putnam, deputy minister of agriculture for Alberta, in the presence of about 200 people. The modern plant, equipped with the best cleaning machinery, cost about \$43,000, one-third of which was raised by the farmers, one-third supplied by provincial government grant and one-third by the municipality. This is the 18th plant erected in Alberta under such a plan.

L. H. Perry is president of the association and Mrs. G. M. Campbell is secretary. Clifton Rush is the plant manager. James Fairweather hauled in the first load of grain at the opening, being barley containing wild oats. The machines cleaned out the wild oats. The plant's capacity is 1,000 bushels a day. It will provide facilities for cleaning grain for many farmers, but they should arrange to have the work done early.

## SEEDER COMPANY FORMED

The High Speed Seeder manufacturing company has been formed at Clearwater, Manitoba, with T. E. McIntyre as president and managing-director. The seeder, it is claimed, combines all the good features of a press drill but is simpler in design and will cost less. The single discs will cut through heavy stubble trash, pulling a following packer wheel and will seed at a constant uniform depth under all soil conditions. It is simple in design and can be operated at high speed. There has been a heavy demand from farmers.



This summer yearling, weight 1,000 lbs., was third in the class at Toronto Royal Fair, entered by John Hay's Crusalta Ranch, in the Alberta shipment east was sold by Serena Hay to Calgary Power Co. for 28¢ a lb.

McLelland Veterinary Supplies (Alberta) Ltd., 611 - 8th Avenue East, Calgary, are suppliers of the new Europe Crumbles, the "Sprinkle On"

## LIQUID GRUB KILLER

An emulsifiable concentrate for the control of CATTLE GRUBS, WARBLE FLIES, LICE on CATTLE, HORSE, SHEEP and SHEEP TICKS (Keds).

PACKED IN CONVENIENT SIZES:

32-oz. ----- \$2.50  
1/2 Gals. ----- \$5.50  
Gallons ----- \$10.00

Guarantee: Effective for purpose claimed. 5% Rotenone.

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feed form of Aureomycin, for cattle, calves, swine and sheep.

This is a world-famous disease fighter with a demonstrated ability to make normal animals do better, finish out better with higher carcass quality, with savings in feeding time and cost per lb. of gain.

**Famous Saddle King Saddles**

Low Moose Cutting Horse Roper ..... **\$138.00**

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SWIFT CURRENT, SASK.  
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**VIOBIN DEHORNING PASTE**



Humane—effective for calves up to two months. No bleeding. No sore heads to treat.

**COSTS LESS THAN 2¢ PER CALF**

1 1/4 oz. (15 to 25 calves) ..... **.75¢**  
3 1/2 oz. (35 to 50 calves) ..... **\$1.00**

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# The Farm Outlook for 1957

**P**ERHAPS the most important event in December, 1956, farm-wise was the Federal-Provincial Agricultural Conference. That is the occasion when delegates of the various farm organizations and representatives of the Provincial Government met with the Federal Department of Agriculture to lift a corner of the curtain to look at what is likely to happen in 1957 to dairying, livestock and agriculture in general.

What the Federal Department of Agriculture people saw under the curtain infused them with a feeling of optimism which is not too uncommon when these officials get together.

The picture that the farm representatives saw was somewhat less optimistic and there was not too much to cheer about. However, those with their feet on the ground will strike a balance in between and, if they look carefully, they will find certain facts that should help point the way to avoid pitfalls in their 1957 operations. For instance, the Federal Agricultural Department forecasts a record wheat carryover by July 31st, this year. Lower prices are predicted for flax producers due to increased production and stronger competition from other countries.

The brighter side predictions were: — Butter production will be down by approximately a million pounds with approximately 84,000,000 lbs. carryover. This represents only a three months' supply at current rates of domestic sales or disappearance. It was intimated that there would be no reduction in the level of farm price supports and the continuance of the \$1,500.00 bank loan programme for farm-stored grain, although we suspect that the interest rates may be boosted. All in all, we can conclude that 1957 will give the farmer a reasonable measure of stability together with certain opportunities of changing some of his operations somewhat. If possible it may be advantageous to shift to smaller wheat and flax acreages to larger livestock and dairying operations. If the labour and facilities are available we believe that increased livestock feeding and an increase in dairying operations offer many farmers an excellent means of increasing their farm income.

Dairying especially will provide a regular income week to week throughout the year which is so desirable and necessary. The dairyman receives approximately 73% of the consumer dollar and receives it regularly and when he markets his produce through a co-operative he receives 73% of the consumer dollar plus his share of the surplus after the necessary manufacturing expense.



The Central Alberta Dairy Pool — owned by its members — sends its New Year's greeting to all our readers.

## Central Alberta Dairy Pool

"OWNED BY THE PEOPLE IT SERVES"

### Jack Neale Retiring

**O**N the evening of December 12th last, about 200 people gathered in Red Deer at the I.O.O.F. Hall. The purpose of this gathering was twofold. Firstly, it was the annual Christmas party of the Alpha Recreational Club and, secondly, to pay tribute to an old friend and fellow employee, Mr. Jack Neale, who is retiring from the C. A. D. Pool, having reached retirement age. Jack has been engaged in the dairy industry for 37 years and is well known throughout the province. His last of the managerial posts for the C.A.D. Pool was the Ponoka branch. Under his able management this branch has produced butter that has been a consistent prize winner in competitions throughout Canada. In his final year as manager of the Ponoka branch, Jack and his staff evidently were determined to leave a record of excellence of workmanship for all branches to try and excel in the coming years. At the Royal Winter Fair at Toronto they had the highest aggregate score in sections one and three for June butter, and placed second being only 3/10's of a point behind the grand prize winner.

During the evening, Mr. E. A. Johnstone, the General Manager, spoke of Jack Neale's excellent years of service to the organization, and on behalf of the management and branch managers presented him with a mantel clock and Mrs. Neale also received a parting gift at the same time.

Jack takes with him the deep respect of his employees and the genuine friendship of his fellow managers and employees.

May your sunset years be happy ones, Jack.

Canadians consumed an average of 1,037 lbs. of dairy products in 1955, the last year for which complete figures are available. Advertising by the Dairy Farmers of Canada is having its effect in increasing such consumption.

Tainted milk and cream is often caused by weed flavor, and stinkweed is mostly responsible. Milk that is tainted is worthless to the farmer wishing to sell it, especially at cheese factories where it is rejected. Cream loses from 19c to 25c a lb. butterfat, which means a loss of from \$3.32 to \$4.37 per 5-gallon can.



Rosafe Shamrock Gilbert, Holstein bull, inbred son of the noted class extra sire, A. B. C. Reflection Sovereign, bought by Pickard and Clarke, Carstairs Alta., from Dr. H. I. Astengo, of Rosafe Farm, Brampton, Ontario.

L. to r., Dr. Astengo, Lloyd Pickard.

### PRIZE WINNERS AT ROYAL FAIR

Alberta buttermakers took all special awards for creamery butter at the Toronto Royal Winter Fair.

The Viking Co-op. Creamery won the grand championship ribbon for the highest scoring butter on exhibition. The Stettler branch of the Central Alberta Dairy Pool won the reserve championship and also the special award for the best finished solids. The Ponoka branch of the Central Alberta Dairy Pool won the specials for the highest aggregate score in sections 1 and 2 and also the best finished entry in the class for prints, salted.

In the four classes entries from Alberta won 68 prizes, 16 firsts, being 69% of all firsts, 50 seconds and 2 thirds on the group system.

Dr. C. E. Hope, economist with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, is making a survey of the B.C. milk situation and will draw up a milk pricing formula for producers.

Milk distributors in the United States make an average profit of half a cent a quart on the retail price, according to a study of distributive cost made by Prof. G. W. Starr, of the University of Indiana. The average retail price at the end of 1955 was 23.14 cents for a U. S. quart, which is about one-fifth smaller than a Canadian quart (Imperial). Milk producers received \$5.32 per 100 lbs., or about 11 cents a quart.



Bailey Farms, Clover Bar, Alberta, paid \$1,500.00 for Houchholme Reflection Princess, at the Sale of Stars held in connection with the Royal Winter Fair. This heifer is a daughter of the noted Extra Sire A.B.C. Reflection Sovereign and is in calf to the Gold Medal Treasure Model bull. Second from the right is Jack Bailey who made the purchase, while at the left are Charley Cox, Calgary, and his granddaughter, Shirley Jackson, Calgary, who was named the Top Junior Showman at the Royal.



This is the first domestic carload shipment of ammonia phosphate fertilizer from the new multi-million-dollar plant of Northwest Nitro-Chemicals Ltd. at Medicine Hat. Delivery was made to the U.G.G. elevator at Red Deer, Alberta.



The top junior showman (or is it showgirl) at the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto, was Shirley Jackson, of Calgary, shown above with her 4H Holstein heifer. Shirley is the first girl to win the Lawara trophy for the junior showman class.



North Country Cheviot, consigned by W. J. Hunter, Calgary, shown with the buyer, Pedro Rodriguez, of Havana, Cuba, and Tom Hayes, sales manager. Price, \$140.



Lloyd M. Kay, Oak Lake, Man., won the sheep shearing contest at the Toronto Royal Winter Fair.

#### VALUE OF PHOSPHATE FERTILIZER

The use of phosphate fertilizer for grain crops hastens ripening from 3 to 10 days, depending on rainfall and temperature, states Dr. C. F. Bentley, associate professor of soils at the University of Alberta. This is particularly true in a slow, late season.

A fertilized cereal crop starts earlier and has greater growth, says Dr. Bentley, and this tends to smother the slower growing weeds. Furthermore, a fertilized crop reduces lodging as it provides a satisfactory nutritive balance to produce strong-stemmed plants.



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River North Pansy's Bright, aristocrat of the Jersey breed, sold for \$4,500.00 at Toronto Royal Show, highest-priced animal at the sale. L. to r.: Grant Butcher, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell Mackay, of Rothsay, N.B., the purchasers, and E. B. Mutch, the seller. He is from P.E.I. In background — Lloyd Pickard and Auctioneer Harry Hays.



# HERE'S WHY ... POOL PATRONAGE PAYS



There are a number of reasons why it pays Alberta farmers to support their own Wheat Pool. One of these is the savings they make on deliveries to Pool Elevators.

As a farmers' organization, operating on a truly co-operative basis, the Alberta Wheat Pool provides its members with a complete grain handling service on a cost basis. Surplus earnings are returned to members according to the patronage of each.

At the recent annual meeting of the Alberta Wheat Pool the decision was reached to distribute \$760,000 worth of dividends on last year's deliveries. The basis will be as follows:

	Cash	Reserves	Total
	— Cents per bushel —		
WHEAT, FLAX	.8	1.0	1.8
OATS, BARLEY, RYE	.4	.5	.9

When this distribution is made next spring the total of Alberta Wheat Pool patronage dividends paid out over the years will amount to nearly \$20,000,000. This is a direct savings Alberta's grain producers have made by building, supporting and patronizing their own Pool elevator system.

You, too, can benefit by joining the Alberta Wheat Pool and marketing your grain the co-operative way. Be sure to patronize Pool elevators at every opportunity.



"IT'S ALBERTA POOL ELEVATORS FOR ALBERTA FARMERS"

## FARM NOTES

The food output per employed farmer in Canada is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as great as the comparable figure for 1935.

Total production of all grains in Alberta in 1956 was 435,026,000 bushels. Wheat production was 136,000,000 bushels.

If you need good seed better look for it early. Another good idea is to have a germination test made of what you plan on planting.

Sales by consumer co-operatives in Saskatchewan during 1955 totalled close to \$60 million, an increase of over \$3½ million in the previous year.

The board of grain commissioners will grade 2-lb. samples of farmers' grain free of charge. Seven inspectors in the Winnipeg office have been spending full time on doing this work.

Wheat consumption has been declining in Europe and meat consumption increasing. Biggest increase has been in the consumption of fats and oils.

Australian wheat is graded on the "fair average quality" of each crop, which requires the gathering of representative wheats each season. A change is now being considered and a conference was recently held to consider plans for a different method of grading.

If Japan can provide 7½ million sandwich lunches every day for school children, Canada should at least be able to provide a bottle of milk a day for Canadian school children. One-third of Canada's population is children.

The total volume of commercial fertilizer used by United States farmers in 1955 was 20,416,410 tons. This is due to the fact that farmers, market gardeners and other users are getting more actual plant food — nitrogen, phosphate and potash — per ton.

There are about 2,500,000,000 acres of land on earth suitable for agriculture, or about one acre for every human being now living. But the distribution of land is uneven. A Japanese has only one-sixth of an acre to provide food, while a Canadian has seven acres of improved land to fill his needs.

The Saskatchewan department of agriculture warns farmers against the purchase of Langdon durum wheat seed. That variety has not been tested in Saskatchewan and some seed grain dealers have been asking high prices for it, double or more the prevailing prices in North Dakota.

The Alberta Wheat Pool will distribute \$738,880.00 in cash in the forthcoming year. Of that total \$401,137.00 will be paid out in redeeming reserves from deceased members' estates and members who have reached the age of 75 years. In cash patronage dividends the distribution will be \$337,743 in cash and \$422,178.00 in reserves.

Most of the soils in the Slave River lowlands, Northwest Territories, covering 2,180,000 acres could support field and garden crops, so says Dr. Alfred Leahey and J. H. Day, soils specialists with the federal department of agriculture, who made a survey of the region. Dr. Leahey said one-third of the area is meadowland and most garden crops, hay, barley and oats could be grown there.

## Wheat Pool Resolutions

### WHEAT POOL RESOLUTIONS

Among the important resolutions passed by the annual meeting of Alberta Wheat Pool delegates were the following:

In favor of a two-price plan for selling Canadian wheat with the domestic price at \$2.00 a bushel basis 1 northern Ft. William.

In favor of the selling of flax and rye by the Canadian Wheat Board.

Urging the drawing up of a plan for the reduction of wheat acreage in the prairie provinces.

Asking the federal government to appoint a transport controller to fill the post caused by the resignation of R. W. Milner.

Asking for accelerated depreciation allowances on the construction of grain bins on farms.

Favoring the substitution of the hundredweight for the bushel as a unit of grain measurement.

Urging the federal and provincial government to finance ¼ each of the cost of hail suppression.

Investigation by the Alberta Wheat Pool directors of the possibilities of the construction of a flour mill.

Support of the Crow's Nest freight rate agreement which establishes a fixed freight rate on export grain.

Asking closer co-operation on the part of the railways in distributing box cars to stations so that there may be an evening up of quotas.

## Optimistic Over Wheat

GEORGE McIVOR, chief commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board, is optimistic over the long-time outlook for wheat exports.

He told the annual convention of Alberta Wheat Pool delegates that world population has increased by 400 million in the past 20 years and that virtually every nation is striving to improve the standards of living of its people. World demand has been running at from 900 million bushels to one billion bushels a year.

While Great Britain had a good crop of wheat in 1956, the condition was poor because of bad harvest weather and Canada is now supplying from 50% to 60% of her import needs, an annually high percentage. Germany and the Scandinavian countries have also poor quality domestic wheat and are free buyers.

Mr. McIvor said he was optimistic about exports to the Far East. Japan took around 29 million bushels of Canadian wheat last crop year and he believes that, in from 10 to 15 years, exports to that nation will be doubled. School children there are supplied, every school day, with 7½ million noonday sandwich lunches and Mr. McIvor says that number may well be doubled in the years ahead so that Japan may then be consuming as much wheat as the people of Canada.

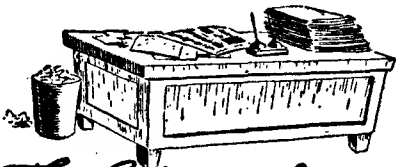
Barley exports have been good but oats slow. The U.S. is the main market for Canadian oats and exports thereto are likely to develop later on as the U.S. 1956 oat crop was down by 350 million bushels from last year.

Even in the face of congested conditions now prevailing, Mr. McIvor thinks that the outlook in the years ahead is favorable for a continuance of substantial exports from Western Canada.

## SPEED A NECESSITY

"Is it true that wild beasts of the jungle will not harm you if you carry a torch?"

"It all depends," replied the explorer and big-game hunter, "on how fast you carry it."



## The Editor's Desk

"As he who dreamed a new world sailed

On an uncharted sea  
From Palos with his caravels,  
Lured by a mystery.  
So, under flaming Asian skies  
Or by the still, white pole,  
That great adventure, the New Year.  
Beckons the human soul."

Mrs. A. W. McCallum, of Mayerthorpe, Alberta, has a two-year-old gelding, out of quarter-horse stock, and would like information about any organization or individual who could give her some advice on how to train same.

A young couple with three children on three quarter sections in south-eastern Saskatchewan need \$3,000 to clear off a mortgage, taxes and debts. The father writes: "We are an honest, sincere, trustworthy, non-drinking couple but have had financial difficulties due to rust and wet weather."

Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,  
Back of the flour is the mill.  
And back of the mill is the wheat and  
the sower  
And the sun and the Father's will.

A few years ago I was in Halifax, Nova Scotia. I took the ferry to cross over to Dartmouth and sat down on an apple box. I glanced down at the box and saw a B.C. sticker thereon and asked a fellow passenger how British Columbia apples came to be selling in Nova Scotia. He said: "Those B.C. fellows have the knack of grading and packing their apples. They also know how to sell." He also told me a lot of B.C. apples went to Newfoundland.

### AGAINST SALES TAX

The Editor :

We are hearing a lot these days in Alberta from our present government about a proposed new sales tax or property tax or both. This increased revenue we are told, is to be used in assisting municipalities.

The present amazing high levels of provincial revenue should indicate to most people that no new or increased taxation is necessary. Surely in the hundreds of millions that are pouring into Edmonton there is plenty of money for the municipalities, schools, etc.

My memory goes back to the bluster, rollicking days of 1934-35 when from a hundred platforms and a thousand charts, we were painted a glorious picture of the proposed abolition of all taxation. Yes, indeed and truly, "Gone with the Wind", in the face of stern reality. We farmers will be hit the hardest of any economic group by the application of either one or both of these proposals. We are the heaviest consumers to suffer from a Sales Tax; the largest owners to be hit by a property tax.

The Social Credit government should know that farm people are in no position to pay any new or increased taxes. We are going through the greatest cost price squeeze in recorded history. Every economic group in our nation, including our politicians and our judges, is on a highly inflated level and our agriculture on a desperate deflated basis. Our debt structure (very largely eliminated in post World War II war days) is now growing to alarming heights. Once

we have these types of taxation, no matter what government is in power, we will find it difficult, if not impossible, to have them removed. After they are imposed, the hour has struck and it is far too late for all time to come.—Jack Sutherland, Hanna, Alta.

### TWILLEY AGAIN IN TROUBLE

The Editor :

I am happy to enclose my renewal for your valuable paper. At our house it's read from beginning to end, most of it is appreciated and regarded as true, except when a fellow from Swan River writes of selling a load of wood for seventy-five cents. The price may be right, but the picture of a load of wood about 12 ft. wide and the same height sitting on an ice road with one team of horses for pulling power with about fifteen lumber jacks standing around looks like a B.C. picture. To pull a load like that out of the bush at Swan River would take from 16 to 24 horses. After all, one horse has only one horse power. — A. J. Driedger, Camrose, Alta.

### COMPULSORY ARBITRATION

The Editor :

At the recent annual meeting of the Manitoba Wheat Pool in Winnipeg a resolution was passed asking for compulsory arbitration in labor disputes — railways, lake shipping, grain terminals and abattoirs.

Every sober-minded Canadian will congratulate the Manitoba Wheat Pool, representing 21,000 Manitoba farmers, for having the courage to ask for something the general public feels is needed. Further, then, will be overwhelming support for this pro-

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posals due to the American steel workers' strike, all steel goods have recently advanced 8% in price. This shows the folly of any alliance between farm organizations and the labor unions. — Gordon McLaren, Pipestone, Manitoba.

### Dockage Costs

In the 1955-56 crop years the grain producers of Western Canada shipped 525,430,635 bushels of all grain. The dockage thereon totalled 2.16% or 11,427,053 bushels of 382,263 tons.

It would take 12,742 cars carrying 30 tons per car to move the dockage, which would mean 232 solid trains of 55 cars.

At the lowest figure the freight cost of the dockage totalled \$1,529,075.00. The feed value of the dockage calculated at \$10 a ton totals \$3,822,630.00, giving a total loss of \$5,351,705.00.

Then there is the matter of storage. Had the dockage been cleaned on the

farm there would be more room in elevators and more cars available for moving the grain.

Looks like it would pay the producers to clean their grain at home.

A vacuum bottle of hot soup, chocolate or milk will prove a welcome addition to the lunch-box that is carried to school or work on cold days.

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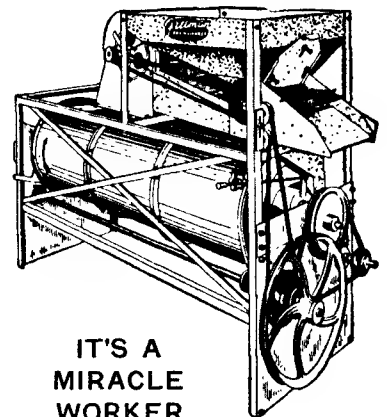
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### Aunt Sal

Of recent weeks "Aunt Sal" has suffered impairment of health. This will be a matter of deep regret to many thousands of farm women who follow her writings with deep interest. At present she is in California and her regular feature is missing for the first time in many, many years. We sincerely hope that she will be well on the way to recovery before long and continue to write for The Farm and Ranch Review. — The Editor.

### General Notes

One of British Columbia's biggest lumber companies is conducting experiments on tree fertilization. By varying the fertilizers and analyzing the soil the best chemical for treatment is ascertained. By driving a copper nail into a pine, the tree was cured of rust.

Forages can be used for a cash crop as well as for hay and pasture, says the Brandon Experimental Farm. Many forages can be grown in Southern Manitoba for seed production. Average production of seed in pounds per acre is cited as follows: slender wheat grass, 200, crested wheat grass 200, intermediate wheat grass 175, brome grass 150, tall wheat grass 125, sweet clover 200 and alfalfa 75. Only registered seed should be sown to avoid weed pollution.

Newcastle disease has broken out in poultry flocks in the Fraser Valley, but not on an extensive basis as was the case several years ago. Vaccination is the best method of prevention.

The United Nations estimated the world's population in 1954 at 2,652,000,000 and growth is proceeding at from 1½ to 2½ per cent a year. China, with 583 million people, had the largest population in the world.

Drouth has created serious conditions in many parts of Texas and a U.S. government backed loan of \$5,000,000 is being made to Mexico for the purchase of some 40,000 beef and dairy cattle from Texas ranchers and farmers.

Australia is concerned over the manner in which the United States has taken over the market for wheat in India. Last year Australia exported 23 million bushels to India, and considered that nation a natural market.

There is a feeling among poultry producers in British Columbia that the Canadian Wheat Board is exceeding its powers in controlling the shipment of feed grain within the province and particularly from the

## The Passing Years

### JANUARY

Far up the rocky mountain pass  
The snows of many years,  
In glaciers gleam thru' sun's pale beam  
Like Nature's frozen tears.

### FEBRUARY

The coppered rocky mountain peaks  
In anger pierce the sky!  
The north wind blows the drifting snows  
That on the hillside lie.

### MARCH

O hush, ye winds! you rivulet,  
Mid rush and roar so mad,  
Attuned doth sing of coming spring;  
And Nature's heart — is glad!

### APRIL

The sun sends forth his golden rays  
Across the earth sublime,  
While notes of cheer ring sweet and clear  
To greet the summer's time.

### MAY

Alluring shadows lightly fall  
Thru' rays of mystic gold,  
And now the earth brings forth new birth!  
The op'ning buds unfold.

### JUNE

Within the heart of every rose  
There lies a pearl of dew,  
And light and low the breezes blow;  
The whispering zephyrs woo.

### JULY

O'er all the valleys and the hills  
The fragrant wild flowers spring  
For pure delight, in beauty bright;  
The birds are on the wing.

### AUGUST

And with the dawn full symphonies  
Of praise to Him arise—  
Glad caroling of songs that ring  
From earth unto the skies!

### SEPTEMBER

And all the joys of Life and Youth  
Are ours in summer's time—  
The wondrous theme of Nature's dream—  
And song of love sublime.

### OCTOBER

But summer may not long remain,  
All things in Nature tell;  
The passing breeze — thru' leafless trees —  
Is her serene farewell.

### NOVEMBER

Now winter claims the roses' bloom,  
The snowflakes pure and white  
Like blessings fall; an dower all  
Come silently — the night.

### DECEMBER

Ah, Nature loves her seasons rare!  
Afar — like frozen tears —  
The glaciers' gloom thru' sun's pale beam  
To mark — the passing years.  
— Jennie Elizabeth Harris,  
— in *Idylls of Canada*.

Creston area. The B.C. attorney-general has been requested to ascertain if the Wheat Board's action is within its powers.

Kerr is the name of a new crab-apple introduced from the Morden Experimental farm. It is a cross between Dolgo and Haralson. It carries the color of Dolgo, has larger size, good jellifying qualities, preserves well and is reasonably good to eat. It is a strong, sturdy tree and hardy right across the prairie provinces.

There is an ample supply of poplar trees in lake areas of Manitoba to provide material for a \$30 million paper mill and Hon. F. L. Jobin, minister of trade and industry, is hopeful of having one established there. The poplar has been named a "weed tree", but it can be used successfully in manufacturing paper, hardboard, insulating board, etc.

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ADULTS! BIRTH CONTROL BOOK plus modern sex booklet. Both for 25c. Latest information. Confidential. Mailed in plain, sealed wrapper. Western Distributors, Box 24GR, Regina, Sask.

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